FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

15 DECEMBER 1983

Iran-Iraq War

A military spokesman cited by Voice of the Masses radio announced that the cities of Dezful, Andimeshk, Behbehan, Nahavand, and Ramhormoz were "struck with success" by Iraqi surface-to-surface missiles "in accordance with the military spokesman's statement on 12 December." On 12 December the spokesman had promised that Iraq would strike selected Iranian targets in response to the bombings in Kuwait on the same day.

Tehran radio and IRNA, reporting the missile attacks, said that casualties totaled 23 dead and 651 wounded in the five cities. The authorities in Khuzestan announced a province-wide mourning period of 3 days, Tehran radio added.

Lebanon

Military Situation — U.S. warships anchored off Beirut, including the battleship *New Jersey*, again shelled Syrian positions in the mountains east of the city, Beirut radio reported. Reacting to the shelling, a Syrian military spokesman cited by Damascus radio revealed that it began immediately after Syrian air defenses had "confronted" U.S. warplanes overflying Syrian positions and forced them to "return toward the sea." The spokesman characterized the overflights and subsequent shelling as further "premeditated aggression" against Syrian positions.

In Beirut two French paratroopers were killed: one in exchanges of shellfire between antigovernment forces and the Lebanese Army and another by an isolated sniper, Paris radio reported. Meanwhile, clashes continued in the Al-Kharrub region and around Lebanese Army positions in Beirut and Suq al-Gharb, according to Beirut radio.

Elsewhere in the country, Syrian forces have withdrawn from some of their positions facing the Israelis in the Al-Biqa' and mountain areas because of the onset of winter, ITIM stated.

Dayr al-Qamar — Lebanon asked Greece and Italy each to send 150 observers to supervise the evacuation of Phalangist forces and Christian civilians from the besieged town of Dayr al-Qamar, a Greek Government spokesman stated in remarks reported by Athens radio. Meanwhile, the evacuation began on 15 December, according to Jerusalem radio.

In anticipation of the evacuation, Israeli forces instituted strict security measures in the south, particularly on the Al-Awwali River bridge, and an Israeli armored column moved north from the river to escort Phalangist fighters leaving Dayr al-Qamar, Beirut radio reported.

Meanwhile, an International Red Cross survey revealed that about 9,000 inhabitants of the town want to leave while 3,000 plan to remain, Jerusalem radio stated. The commander of the Phalangists in the region told the radio that no one would dare to harm those that remain behind because of the IDF's support for the evacuation.

Political Developments — President Amin al-Jumayyil met with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and other officials to "seek reassurance" of the British Government's continued support, the LONDON PRESS ASSOCIATION reported. A statement released after the talks, reported by the association, stated that Thatcher told Al-Jumayyil that Britain would continue to support Lebanese Government attempts to bring about reconciliation and "restore Lebanese sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity."

Al-Jumayyil described his talks with the British leaders as "very useful," according to Beirut radio. On relations with Syria, Al-Jumayyil told journalists that contacts will continue in order to "determine whether we can tackle some thorny issues." He said the 17 May Lebanese-Israeli agreement, which Syria opposes, may be circumvented "at this stage" and left for a future government to handle. Al-Jumayyil also promised that "envoys will leave tomorrow" to discuss the possibility of reconvening the National Dialogue Conference "next week."

Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt discussed the Dialogue Conference, as well as the current situation in general, with presidential envoy Donald Rumsfeld in Amman, Amman radio reported. In remarks before meeting Rumsfeld, which were reported by Radio Monte Carlo, Junblatt ruled out his party's participation in any national unity government before the reforms agreed at the Geneva conference are realized.

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat announced that all arrangements for the evacuation of his forces from Tripoli have been completed and that he is awaiting the arrival of Greek ships chartered to transport the Palestinians to the YAR and Algeria, Beirut radio reported. However, the Greek merchant marine minister disclosed that Greece has not yet obtained guarantees for the safety of the ships, according to Athens radio. Meanwhile, a representative of Tripoli's Coordination Committee declared that Lebanese Internal Security Forces will shortly deploy in the city in accordance with the evacuation plan, Beirut radio noted. ANSA confirmed that an Italian ship has been earmarked to evacuate wounded Palestinians from the city, and 'Arafat's spokesman in Tripoli said the ship is expected to arrive on 15 December, according to AFP.

Syria

U.S., Saudi Envoys — Donald Rumsfeld discussed the current situation with Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Damascus radio reported. Earlier, President Hafiz al-Asad received visiting Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the radio said, who gave the president a message concerning regional and Lebanese developments from King Fahd. Their talks focused on the consequences of U.S. and Israeli "threats and provocations" against Syria, the radio said, and Al-Asad asked his visitor to convey a reply to King Fahd. Rafiq an-Natshah, the PLO representative in Riyadh, indicated that the prince's visit was aimed at persuading the Syrians to allow 'Arafat's forces to depart overland through Syria in order the Israeli naval blockade, according to Radio Monte Carlo.

Control of SAM-5 System — There are "signs" the Soviet Union may hand the SAM-5's in Syria over to the Syrians, an Israeli military source told a Knesset committee in remarks reported by IDF Radio.

Iraq

Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz met with PRC Premier Zhao Ziyang in Beijing, XINHUA reported.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 242 *15 December 1983*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Military Communique on 13 Dec Israeli Raid *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 1
Italian Ship To Evacuate PLO Wounded *[AFP]* ..... A 1
Italian Ship Ready *[ANSA]* ..... A 1
PLO Official on Italian Support, Other Topics *[PAESE SERA]* ..... A 1
Khalid al-Fahum Condemns Kuwait Bombings *[KUNA]* ..... A 1
WAFA Editor Cited on PLO's Tripoli Departure *[Damascus]* ..... A 1
Camps in Jordan Cable Support for 'Arafat *[Amman AR-RA'Y 15 Dec]* ..... A 2

ARABIAN PENINSULA

BAHRAIN

Premier on Kuwait Blasts, GCC, Hormuz *[Kuwait AS-SIYASAH]* ..... C 1

KUWAIT

Prime Minister Thanks Security Men ..... C 1
No Plans for GCC Meeting on Explosion ..... C 2
Authorities Interrogate Explosion Suspect *[AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM 13 Dec]* ..... C 2

OMAN

UK Minister Luce Arrives 15 Dec ..... C 2

SAUDI ARABIA

Foreign Minister Returns From Damascus ..... C 2
Prince Sultan Pays Official Visit to Jakarta *[cross-reference]* ..... C 2

EGYPT

Mubarak Comments on Kuwait Explosions ..... D 1
Cables Kuwaiti Amir ..... D 1
Usamah al-Baz Comments on Kuwait Explosions ..... D 1
AL-AHRAM Views Risks of U.S.-Israeli Pact *[11 Dec]* ..... D 2

IRAQ

Spokesman on 14 Dec Attack on Iranian Cities ..... E 1
Armed Forces General Command Communique No 1,310 ..... E 1
President Confers With Romanian Journalist ..... E 1
Briefs: Outgoing Kuwaiti Ambassador ..... E 1

JORDAN

Prince Hasan Receives U.S. Envoy Rumsfeld 14 Dec ..... F 1
Rumsfeld Leaves Amman 14 Dec ..... F 1
Papers on U.S., Israeli Practices in Lebanon ..... F 1

LEBANON

U.S. Ships Bombard Mountain Area 14 Dec ..... G 1
'New Jersey' Bombards Mountain ..... G 1
Marine Guard Opens Fire at Taxi Near Airport *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 1
Israeli Tanks Cross Al-Awwali River 14 Dec ..... G 1
Israeli Gunboats in Tripoli Come Under Fire ..... G 1
Israelis To Act as 'Escort' for Lebanese Forces ..... G 1
Syrian Shells Land Near Israeli Positions ..... G 1
VOL Reports on Israeli Presence in Ad-Damur ..... G 1
Reportage on Killing of French Soldiers ..... G 2
Officer Killed in Shelling *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 2
2 Soldiers Reported Killed *[Paris]* ..... G 2
Paratrooper Killed ..... G 2
Ministry Confirms Two Deaths *[Paris]* ..... G 2
Al-Jumayyil Talks to Reporters in London ..... G 2
Al-Jumayyil, Thatcher Meet To Discuss Lebanon ..... G 4
Al-As'ad on Meeting To Discuss Current Issues ..... G 4
Lebanese Front Discusses Church Explosions *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 5
Security Forces Ready To Assume Duty in North ..... G 5
Junblatt on U.S. Shelling, Meeting With Rumsfeld *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... G 5
Junblatt Meets Rumsfeld in Amman 14 Dec *[Amman]* ..... G 5

SYRIA

U.S. Act of 'Premeditated Aggression' Reported ..... H 1
Commentary on 'New Aggression' ..... H 1
Press Comment on U.S. 'Escalation' ..... H 1
U.S. Envoy Donald Rumsfeld Arrives 14 Dec ..... H 2
Received by Khaddam ..... H 2
Holds Second Round of Talks *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... H 2
Departs 15 December ..... H 2
Saudi Foreign Minister Arrives in Damascus 14 Dec ..... H 2
Received by Al-Asad ..... H 2
Meets Khaddam, Departs ..... H 3
Khaddam, Kuwaiti Envoy Review 'Current' Situation *[KUNA]* ..... H 3
Al-Ahmar Receives NSSP Leader 14 Dec ..... H 3
People's Assembly Delegation Returns From India ..... H 3
Karami Receives Egyptian 'Popular' Delegation ..... H 3

ISRAEL

Al-Asad Reportedly To Receive Treatment in Switzerland ..... I 1
Kenya, Tanzania Renew Diplomatic Ties *[THE JERUSALEM POST 15 Dec]* ..... I 1
Military Source on Soviet Role in Syria ..... I 1
Further Comments ..... I 1
Syria Evacuates Some Positions for Winter ..... I 1
Evacuation of Phalangists From Dayr al-Qamar Begins ..... I 1
IDF Statement on Evacuation ..... I 2
Dayr al-Qamar, Dialogue With Lebanese Linked *[HA'ARETZ 15 Dec]* ..... I 2
Arens Comments on Lebanon, Jordan's Husayn ..... I 2
Further on Lebanon, Syria ..... I 2
Arens on Lavi Manufacture ..... I 3
Comments on Tulkarm Shooting ..... I 3
More on West Bank ..... I 3
Shamir on Joint Israeli-U.S.-Lebanese Policy ..... I 3
Levi Denies Remarks Reported in LE MONDE ..... I 3
Levi on Mitterrand Talks ..... I 3
'Terrorist' Casualties in Naval Shelling Cited *[MA'ARIV 14 Dec]* ..... I 4
Worsening Relations With Egypt Concern Government *[MA'ARIV 14 Dec]* ..... I 4

U.S. Consulate in East Jerusalem Criticized *[MA'ARIV 14 Dec]* ..... I 5
Soviets Cancel Participation in Conference *[MA'ARIV 14 Dec]* ..... I 5
Mediterranean Antipollution Treaty Approved *[THE JERUSALEM POST 15 Dec]* ..... I 5
Newspapers Receive Information on Bomb Threats *[THE JERUSALEM POST 14 Dec]* ..... I 5
Briefs: Immigration Data ..... I 6

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

African Development Fund Meeting Opens *[Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN 13 Dec]* ..... P 1
Congo Signs Convention Establishing PANA *[PANA]* ..... P 1

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Mauritania's Haydala Departs 14 December ..... Q 1

MOROCCO

Al-Jumayyil To Make 'Brief, Unannounced' Visit *[KUNA]* ..... Q 1
Boucetta Leaves With Hassan Message for Fahd ..... Q 1

TUNISIA

Algerians Arrive for Treaty Signing Ceremony ..... Q 1
Mauritanian, Algerian Presidents Depart ..... Q 1

CENTRAL AFRICA

CHAD

Bardai Radio Stresses OAU Role in Peace Efforts ..... S 1

CONGO

GUNT's Goukouni Meets With President, Comments ..... S 1

ZAIRE

PANA: France Grants Funds for Medical Research ..... S 1

WEST AFRICA

GHANA

Ban on Sunday Sale of Petroleum Products Lifted ..... T 1

IVORY COAST

ROK Communications Minister Arrives for Visit *[FRATERNITE MATIN 14 Dec]* ..... T 1

LIBERIA

PRC Agrees To Return to Civilian Rule in 1985 ..... T 1

NIGERIA

Asiodu on Increased Oil Quota, Development ..... T 1
Senate, House Committees on Defense Inaugurated ..... T 2
Community in Oyo Separates From Ile-Ife ..... T 2

TOGO

French Presidential Adviser Departs 14 December ..... T 2

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Nigeria's Audu Delivers Message to Dos Santos ..... U 1
Denies Multinational Force Proposal ..... U 1
Talks Held With Tanzanian Trade Delegation ..... U 1
Refugee Conference Delegation Meets Officials ..... U 1

BOTSWANA

Border Villagers Urged To Assist in Security ..... U 1

LESOTHO

ANC Expresses Thanks for Massacre Commemoration ..... U 2
Maseru Compares Machel, Botha European Tours ..... U 2

MADAGASCAR

Assembly President Confers With PRC Ambassador ..... U 2

MOZAMBIQUE

National Resistance Communique Reports Operations *[Voice of Mozambique National Resistance]* ..... U 3

SOUTH AFRICA

Umtata Reports Possibility of Summit With Angola ..... U 4
Spokesman on Potential Threat of Angolan Navy ..... U 4
USSR-Backed Faction Seen Purging Angolan Moderates ..... U 4
Police Confirm Botswana Request for Assistance ..... U 5
Umtata: Government Negotiating Swazi Removal ..... U 5
Commentary Urges Regional Economic Cooperation ..... U 5
Minister Hails Economic Relations With France ..... U 5
UDF Statement on Low Election Turnout Reported *[RAND DAILY MAIL 14 Dec]* ..... U 6

SWAZILAND

Ministers Depart for Belgian Aid Talks 13 Dec *[THE SWAZI OBSERVER 14 Dec]* ..... U 6
TIMES: Total Charged in Coup Attempt 17 *[14 Dec]* ..... U 6

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Criticizes U.S. Invasion of Grenada ..... U 6
Government Disappointed With Development Funds ..... U 7
Radio Truth Reiterates ZIPRA Warning to Tourists ..... U 7

Military Communique on 13 Dec Israeli Raid

JN141714 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1617 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] The Palestinian revolution forces general command issued a military statement last night which said: At 1600 this evening, three Israeli naval vessels approached the city of Tripoli and opened artillery and rocket fire on the city's various quarters, particularly in the Al-Bihsas and Al-Mina' areas. Our forces are dealing with and confronting these vessels. The battle is still raging between our artillery and the hostile vessels. Our coastal guns were able to score a direct hit on one of the enemy's vessels. The vessel was seen ablaze. The three vessels were then forced to retreat to the open sea. Revolution until victory!

Italian Ship To Evacuate PLO Wounded

NC141330 Paris AFP in English 1328 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Tripoli, Lebanon, Dec 14 (AFP) — An Italian hospital ship is expected here tomorrow to take 97 wounded Palestinians on board, Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman, a spokesman for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said today. The 97 were seriously injured in recent fighting around the north Lebanese city between PLO fighters loyal to leader Yasir 'Arafat and dissidents supported by Syria. The spokesman also said that, as proposed by the United Nations, only small arms would be taken when PLO loyalists evacuate Tripoli. "We accept all the rules of the United Nations. from our side, there is no problem", said Mr ar-Rahman. The hospital ship will be taken from the fleet at the disposal of the Multinational Force in Lebanon. Red Cross workers aboard the ship will care for the injured, whose families will also be allowed on board.

Italian Ship Ready

AU141555 Rome ANSA in English 1540 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Rome, December 14 — The evacuation of wounded Palestinians from the Lebanese city of Tripoli Might take place aboard the civilian Italian ship *'Appia'* which is currently in the Eastern Mediterranean, under the auspices of the international Red Cross and with civilian personnel recruited in Beirut outside of the peacekeeping mission.

A plane stands ready at Rome's Ciampino airport for the eventual transport to Cyprus of Italian Red Cross workers who might take part in the operation: seven medical officers and twelve nurses along with medical and surgical equipment.

PLO Official on Italian Support, Other Topics

AU141550 Rome ANSA in English 1530 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] (ANSA) Rome, December 14 — The new Palestinian Liberation Organization representative in Rome, 'Abd al-Fatah al-Khalkili, said in an interview published by *"PAESE SERA"* today that he had so far met not only with an understanding of the Palestinian problem by the Italian political world but also a great willingness to cooperate.

Al-Khalkili recently replaced Nimr Haddad as the PLO representative in Rome when the latter was transferred to Prague.

Asked about a PLO call for Italian protection for Palestinians to be evacuated from Tripoli, Lebanon Al-Khalkili said that officially Rome had not yet given an answer. He said that the newspapers claim that Italy's political forces are not in agreement on the issue and that the PLO is awaiting a decision. However, he said that his organization had confidence that the reply would be a positive one; if not, the PLO would not have appealed to Italy in the first place.

The Israeli shelling to Tripoli showed that the real aim of the Jewish state was not a Palestinian exodus from Lebanon but the annihilation of the Palestinian people, Al-Khalkili went on.

The newly-forged strategical and military pact between Israel and Washington goes far beyond the shelling of Tripoli, he continued. The U.S. has, in fact, given Israel a mandate for all of the Middle East, one of the possible effects of which could be the annexation of the West Bank for starters, the PLO spokesman said. Another consequence of the pact could be a strengthening of the Israeli position in occupied Southern Lebanon with Jewish settlements being created there as early as next spring. Then too, a large-scale military offensive against Syria might be launched if attempts to pacify Lebanon fail, he said.

As to the dialogue between the PLO and Jordan, Al-Khalkili noted that King Husayn in an interview yesterday said he was willing to take part in the peace process but had set certain conditions such as a halt to Jewish settlements in the West Bank and PLO authorization to negotiate in its name. However, Al-Khalkili said that the PLO cannot delegate its authority to negotiate to Husayn or to anyone else.

Khalid al-Fahum Condemns Kuwait Bombings

LD141952 Kuwait KUNA in English 1618 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Damascus, dec 14 (KUNA) — Kuwait ambassador to Damascus 'Abd ar-Razzaq al-Kandari met here wednesday with chairman of the Palestine National Council Khalid al-Fahum. After the meeting, Al-Kandari said he discussed the situation in the Middle East and developments in the Palestinian arena.

Al-Fahum conveyed to Al-Kandari the Palestine Liberation Organization's condemnation of the explosions Kuwait witnessed monday.

WAFA Editor Cited on PLO's Tripoli Departure

JN150717 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] Damascus — The political editor of the Palestinian news agency, WAFA, has said that the Syrian, national Lebanese, and Palestinian confrontation of the NATO and Zionist forces' provocations and aggression throughout Lebanon reflects the seriousness of the stand the Syrian-Palestinian-Lebanese triangle of steadfastness is adopting against the strategic alliance

among the United States, the Zionist enemy, and the NATO allies. The political editor also said that 'Arafat's deviant leadership, which is preoccupied with preparing the theatrics of evacuating the Palestinian fighters from the arena of confrontation with the Zionist enemy, is working hard to Arabize and internationalize the decision to depart from Tripoli in order to blame others for the destructive consequences that will affect Palestinian national action.

The political editor said we should not be deceived by the Israeli role regarding 'Arafat's departure, because the United States approved of the Security Council's decision to fly the UN flag on the vessels that will carry 'Arafat and his clique away from Tripoli. He added: This reveals the nature of the fabricated clamor on the complication of the departure process — a clamor aimed at diverting attention from the demands for reform, for which the Fatah uprising was staged.

Camps in Jordan Cable Support for 'Arafat
JN150937 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 15 Dec 83 p 28

[Text] Amman — *AR-RA'Y* — The Palestinian refugee camps in Jordan have condemned the Syrian and Israeli blockades of Tripoli, northern Lebanon.

In a cable to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, the representatives of the refugee camps expressed the Palestinian refugees' deep concern over this situation.

The cable asserts the camps' support for Palestinian legitimacy and independent Palestinian decisionmaking under 'Arafat, the symbol of the Palestinian people's struggle.

BAHRAIN

Premier on Kuwait Blasts, GCC, Hormuz

GF141230 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1000 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 14 Dec (WAKH) — Bahraini Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah has emphasized that the GCC countries should coordinate their efforts to confront dangers that may jeopardize their security and drive them away from their borders so that these dangers will not affect the people's and the security of the region. Shaykh Khalifah denounced the sabotage acts that took place in Kuwait on Monday and stressed that the cohesion of Kuwait under its sagacious leadership is capable of confronting such irresponsible aggression. The Kuwaiti people — supported by the peoples of the GCC countries — will form a deterrent and cohesive front against all the powers of sabotage and recklessness. He said: We, as Gulf countries, appreciate all aid presented to us by the allied and fraternal Arab countries in order to avert these dangers.

In a statement to the Kuwaiti newspaper *AS-SIYASAH* published today, His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah noted that these dangers lie in foreign interference in the area countries. He continued: The security dangers are the outcome of what takes place in neighborly Arab countries and others where this emenates from crises and problems which these countries experience and try to transfer to Gulf countries. He pointed out that such developments and events will not be in the interest of the Arab nation because the security of this region is an extension of the Arab security. He indicated that by demonstrating cohesion we can confront these dangers because their effect and impact will constitute a threat to the region's countries at this stage and in the future.

Asked about the prospects of a confrontation among foreign powers in the Gulf, he said that he would not be surprised to see anything undertaken by the superpowers in order to preserve their interests or their strategic regimes in this vital part of the world.

He went on to say that the State of Bahrain regards stability as a basic element for any development and progress in the Gulf region. He added: We in Bahrain work to attain security and stability. We also grant facilities to all those who assist in the process of construction and investment. We obtain our stability from the stability of the region and we had been ensuring cooperation with our neighbors before the establishment of the GCC. We hope this coordination will be enhanced, after the formation of the GCC in particular, in the field of security since we live in one region.

Answering a question about the prospects of the closure of the Strait of Hormuz, he said: I believe that it is impossible to blockade the Strait of Hormuz. We regret the repetition of such threats. We say that these attempts give all the strategic reasons and pretexts for interference by the superpowers in this region and for imposing a de facto situation on us under the pretext of ensuring the safety of the waterways. So let us abandon these threats and pretexts which will not serve the interests, security, and stability of the region's countries.

His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah also noted that Gulf power is capable, by and large, of protecting the region. Thus there is no need for another Arab power. His Highness also noted that coordination among the GCC countries on armament and defense policies is in effect. He indicated that contacts with the weapon-producing countries is continuous since any country has the right to develop its military and defensive capabilities. He added: We, the GCC countries, asses our security and defensive policies on coordinated and constant bases.

KUWAIT

Prime Minister Thanks Security Men

LD141428 Kuwait KUNA in English 1301 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Kuwait, Dec 14 (KUNA) — H.H. the Crown Prince and Premier Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah met at the Council of Ministers Wednesday with Interior Minister Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir, governors, the ministry's undersecretary and assistant undersecretary for security affairs. The crown prince conveyed h.h. the amir's greetings and appreciation to the security men. The premier expressed his deep appreciation and those of the government and citizens over the efforts and speed in containing the outcome of the criminal acts on Monday and pursuing the evil elements who committed them.

The crown prince hailed the constructive national stance displayed in the National Assembly's positive statement yesterday, and what it included of appreciation for the efforts of the security authorities and its support for the procedures adopted to protect the country's security. Discussions also covered the results of the criminal explosions and the measures adopted to fight such criminal operations.

Shaykh Sa'd explained the serious dimensions of the criminal acts aimed at the security and stability of Kuwait and the safety of the innocent residents on its soil. His highness said "We were always thanking God that Kuwait is an oasis of peace and security in which all enjoy freedom and peace while violence was sweeping many parts of the world. We will never allow any party to transfer to our secure country criminal practices, or affect the citizens and residents' security and safety," the crown prince pledged and warned "we will never waver in confronting saboteurs and striking those who bear evil against our secure country." Shaykh Sa'd added "The protection of our country's security and safety of its people is the responsibility that we shoulder and a sacred duty that all should cooperate in implementing."

The security men, on their part, are determined to check violence with firmness regardless of its source, the premier said. Shaykh Sa'd lauded the efforts of the armed forces and the national guards in confronting the criminal acts. The crown prince further hailed the citizens and expatriates for their "national feelings and preparedness to sacrifice for the sake of our dear nation."

The interior minister expressed deep appreciation in the name of all security and ministry officials over h.h. the amir, h.h. the crown prince and premier, the government and citizens' trust in the security men. He asserted that the security authorities will live up to that trust and will double their efforts and enhance their sacred duty in protection of the country's security and citizens' safety.

No Plans for GCC Meeting on Explosion

LD150918 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0844 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 15 Dec (KUNA) — Kuwaiti Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn said in press statements published here today that there is currently no intention of convening an urgent meeting of the GCC foreign ministers to discuss the situation resulting from the recent explosions in Kuwait.

Mr Husayn also affirmed that the government has no intention of declaring a state of emergency in the country because "the security situation is under control, and security men are on permanent alert."

Asked about those detained following the incidents, Mr Husayn said: "A group of detainees is under investigation, and security interests require that the investigation be kept secret."

Authorities Interrogate Explosion Suspect

GF141950 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 13 Dec 83 p 1

[Excerpt] *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM* has learned that the security authorities are interrogating a person who works for one of the national companies. It has been proved that all the vehicles used in the explosion operations are registered in his name.

OMAN

UK Minister Luce Arrives 15 Dec

GF150738 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0700 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] Muscat, 15 Dec (WAKH) — British Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Richard Luce arrived today in Muscat on an official visit to Oman that will last several days and is within the framework of his tour of a number of the region countries. This is regarded the second tour undertaken by the British minister to the Gulf region in 1 month. He cut short his visit to the region last week and returned to London following the U.S. escalation in Lebanon.

During his visit to the Sultanate of Oman, the British minister will hold talks with his Omani counterpart Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah focusing on bilateral relations and the latest developments in the Arab arena. During his previous tour Luce had visited Kuwait and Bahrain. He is scheduled to leave next Saturday for the UAE and Qatar.

SAUDI ARABIA

Foreign Minister Returns From Damascus

LD142155 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2133 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Riyadh, 14 Dec (SPA) — Foreign Minister His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal returned to Riyadh tonight from Damascus after a visit to Syria which lasted for some hours and during which he conveyed a message from King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad concerning the fraternal relations between the two countries and current developments in the Arab region. His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal left Damascus earlier this evening and was seen off by Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs 'Abd al-Ha[illegible] Khaddam, the Kingdom's ambassador to Damascus 'Abdallah al-Fadl, and a number of Syrian officials.

Prince Sultan Pays Official Visit to Jakarta

For reportage on the visit to Indonesia by Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and defense and aviation minister, see the Indonesia section of the 15 December Asia and Pacific *DAILY REPORT*.

Mubarak Comments on Kuwait Explosions

NC141422 Cairo MENA in English 1305 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Cairo, Dec 14 (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak denounced today the explosions which swept over Kuwait on Monday. Egypt condemns all acts of violence and this is a clear and basic line of Egypt's policy, he said. In statements to newsmen following his meeting today with the political group, the president strongly lashed at acts of violence, killing, and destruction as they in no way help reach a settlement. President Mubarak said what had taken place in Kuwait is an indication that the Palestinian cause is the core of the matter, and the events occurring in the region were due to the slow progress of settling the Palestinian issue. The president voiced fear that such slowness would lead to the liquidation of the cause, adding that such a contingency would not halt the events but would step them up, not only in the region but also in many other parts of the world.

In reply to a query on the possibility of his meeting with King Husayn of Jordan, President Mubarak said there is no talk of such a meeting at present, but, if necessary, such a meeting will take place.

About the Islamic Jihad Organisation, which claimed responsibility for the blasts which shook Kuwait recently, and if there is any indication of the presence of some members of the organisation in Egypt, President Mubarak said that if any member of this organisation was found in Egypt, we will react in our own deterring style. There is no current indication of the presence of any member of this organization in Egypt, the president added.

On the pressures put on the Palestinians to oust them from Lebanon, President Mubarak said the principle of evacuating the Palestinians from Lebanon is a wrong one, and said the Arab and non-Arab states will realize this in future. We had repeatedly said since the beginning of the Palestinian departure from Lebanon, that such a measure was wrong so long as there is no settlement for their cause. The president condemned the present events in Lebanon aiming at the extermination of Palestinians, adding that contacts are held with all parties to halt the massacre. On whether there are any contacts for [words indistinct] the departure of the Palestinians from Tripoli, Lebanon, President Mubarak said there are continued contacts, and communications with the Palestinian leadership have never been suspended.

Cables Kuwaiti Amir

NC141831 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1800 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Cairo, 14 Dec (MENA) — Today President Husni Mubarak sent a cable to Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah in which he regrets and denounces the explosions that took place in Kuwait on 12 December. President Mubarak stresses that the Egyptian people stand by their brothers in Kuwait in confronting this ordeal. The following is the text of the cable:

His Highness Brother Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, the amir of Kuwait: I have received with great regret the news about the terrible incidents which took place in your fraternal country and which were carried out by irresponsible elements who deny all noble principles and examples which our Islamic religion advocates. The Arab Republic of Egypt strongly denounces this criminal action, the victims of which were innocent people. This criminal action can benefit no one. The Arab people of Egypt stand by their brothers in Kuwait in confronting this ordeal. They are confident that the fraternal people are capable of resisting the sedition and of firmly opposing these actions that are incompatible with our sublime spiritual values. We ask God to protect you and your fraternal people against all harm.

Usamah al-Baz Comments on Kuwait Explosions

NC141857 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1630 GMT 16 Dec 83

[Text] Cairo , 14 Dec (MENA) — Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and presidential office director for political affairs, emphasized that Egypt bears a responsibility which transgresses its geographical borders. He said this responsibility is connected with Arab security, security in the Middle East area, and security on the African Continent, as well as in western Asia. Following today's meeting by the political group chaired by President Husni Mubarak, Dr Usamah al-Baz said in statements to correspondents that the area's security is directly linked with Egyptian vital interests. He said it is natural for us to be interested in this security and to play an efficacious role which goes beyond simply putting views on record.

Replying to a question about whether Egypt will hold contacts with the Arab states during the current phase, Dr Usamah al-Baz said there are contacts that can possibly benefit the current phase. He said the Egyptian move can possibly begin following the resumption of the process of a full assessment of the events that are going on in the area — an assessment to be made at the meeting which will be held by the political group during the beginning of next week.

With regard to President Mubarak's meeting with the political group today, Dr al-Baz said the meeting centered on the events that are occurring in the Middle East. Al-Baz said Egypt will takea position, not just an opinion, with a specific move which would be aimed at eliminating the hotbeds of tension, and which would also be geared toward focusing attention once again on the peace efforts, in lieu of witnessing a tense situation that would endanger all the states in the area, as well as the vital interests of us all.

Regarding the nature of the Egyptian moves, Dr Usamah al-Baz said we are in the process of studying the steps that are needed. There is also an assessment of the information which is continuously reaching us. Furthermore, contacts are also taking place between us and all the Arab and non-Arab parties concerned with these events.

He added that it is natural that we should contact the United States, France, and the other European states which are interested in the Middle East situation. The reason for this is that the situation is now fraught with danger for all and it is impossible for Egypt to take a negative attitude toward this, or to act just as an onlooker in this situation. Egypt does not content itself with merely issuing statements and taking positions for the sole pur-

pose of putting views on record. Asked about the role that Egypt can play to stop the deterioration of the situation in the area, he said Egypt can move within the bounds of whatever is available to any Arab state — Egypt has contacts with all the parties and it also has a specific vision of the reasons for the deterioration of the situation. We must first draw attention to specific developments which, if left to continue and to spread uncontrollably, would lead to deterioration of the situation. He said Egypt subscribes to the viewpoint that the continuation of the occupation in Lebanon will lead to numerous implications. Furthermore, Egypt holds the view that the recently concluded agreements can complicate many aspects of the situation now existing in the Middle East. Al-Baz said we believe that it is incumbent on us to contain these developments through taking rectifying measures in various directions for the purpose of again steering the area in the direction of peace, and for the purpose of diminishing the possibilities of an explosion of the situation, as well as curbing an increase of subversive actions, and preventing the heightening of acts of violence.

Dr al-Baz said one must envisage the real situation in the Middle East and realize to what extent the current course taken by some states will lead. One must also know the reason for the fragmentation and division in the area and the increasing trend toward violence, because all specific political phenomena have political, economic, social, and psychological reasons. He added that these phenomena must be analyzed and appraised so that we can ascertain the exemplary Egyptian role toward all these changes and the circumstances which the area is living through. Al-Baz noted that the discussion of these points is continuing. He said: We do not adopt stances spontaneously or out of excitability, but on the basis of a complete appraisal and after contacting the various parties. He said certain events are of an urgent nature and in this respect we act directly. Some urgent contacts are made with the parties, the speedy moves of which we consider as vital in order to correct the situation in the area.

Answering a question on the U.S. threats made by the secretary of state recently to strike specific positions in Lebanon, Dr al-Baz said: We do not adopt stances out of excitability as a result of a statement made on specific circumstances, but we consider and view all aspects of the state's stand as a whole.

He added: The main idea is that there must be a defined vision of the required strategic goals. The goal which others are seeking must also be defined — whether this goal is to safeguard peace in the area or to introduce the element of peace and expand it in the Middle East. Dr al-Baz said: We believe that the basic starting point for peace is that there should be a settlement of the Palestine question. Without a settlement of the Palestine question all other implications will remain. The Israeli forces must also leave Lebanon as soon as possible and a dialogue will then be held among all the conflicting parties.

Dr al-Baz said Egypt believes that defusing the present explosive situation can be made by really turning toward settling the Palestinian people's question and not by centering on daily, temporary operations. The Palestinian people must be assured that they will obtain their rights. We must stop the deteriorating situation in the area as a result of successive implications daily taking place, which will ultimately lead to the Palestinians losing any hope; this will consequently lead to increasing the trend toward violence.

Answering a question about new factors diverting the attention from the Palestine question in the area, Dr al-Baz said: Whatever takes place in specific states attracts our attention. We believe that we must be fully alert and cautious in dealing with any phenomenon. We must always put it in its perspective. We must also assess the proportionate size of events.

Dr al-Baz noted that the events which took place in Kuwait are definitely serious and will have their implications. The reasons for these events must be ascertained. It is important that they will not recur and that they will not extend to other countries in the Gulf area. Dr al-Baz said: We are eager that there must be a serious move by the Arab states toward achieving further security and stability in the area and toward preventing a further deterioration in the security situation there. All this must not turn our attention from the real reasons of all these events. He said the most important of these reasons is that the Palestine question remains without a solution and the Palestinian people are daily losing the hope for a political solution.

Concluding his statements, Dr al-Baz said: We want to see a serious trend by the international community toward at least a start — a start toward settling the Palestine question and toward persuading Israel to withdraw from southern Lebanon. He said this is the major question and other questions are either peripheral or temporary, which we must also view and put in their perspective framework.

AL-AHRAM Views Risks of U.S.-Israeli Pact

PM141549 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 11 Dec 83 p 7

[Salah Muntasir "Mere Politics" column: "So That We Will Not Exaggerate When Talking About U.S.-Israeli Agreement nor Underestimate or Belittle the Danger Accompanying It"]

[Excerpts] In his statement following the presentation of his credentials last Wednesday, the new U.S. ambassador to Egypt, Nicholas Veliotes, said, in answer to a question by journalists about the strategic agreement between the United States and Israel,that what has been published in the press so far regarding this agreement exaggerates its importance and interpretations. Once this great wave of speculation about the agreement dies down, many people will realize that there is no change in the U.S. Middle East policy.

I do not think that I am the only one who would like to believe the new U.S. ambassador's words, particularly since it is the first statement he made after becoming his country's ambassador to Egypt. It will be a moral, political, and diplomatic disaster if we were to discover that the new ambassador began his work with an incorrect statement.

According to the U.S. concept we are called upon not to lose the ability to see correctly what President Reagan and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir agreed upon and to put this into its true perspective without exaggerations. Proponents of this concept base their view on several points which they want us to take into

consideration, so that we may reach the correct perspective of the reality of this agreement. These points include the following:

The agreement reached between Reagan and Shamir has not yet reached the level of a "written agreement" such that anybody can analyze its articles and words. All that has come about was an "unwritten agreement" and, therefore, its interpretations can differ from one person to another.

That the backbone of this unwritten agreement is the setting up of a "joint U.S.-Israeli political-military committee" whose task, according to Reagan's verbatim statement, is "to examine ways in which we can enhance U.S.-Israeli cooperation." [quoted sentence published in English followed by Arabic translation] We must underline the word "examine" because it signifies that the means of this agreement have not yet been defined.

That until this committee meets — its first meeting being scheduled for the first week of January — we must be very cautious of the big trial balloons which Israel will try to fly in the skies of the area, so as to see the extent of reaction to them so that it may benefit when the committee in question — which is to meet twice yearly — convenes.

This is confirmed by the fact that the statements emanating from Israel describe the agreement as "representing a turning point in the relations between the United States and Israel." This was said by Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens. Meanwhile, according to the proponents of the concept of avoiding exaggeration, the agreement practically creates nothing new; rather it is a confirmation of relations actually existing between the United States and Israel, and that these relations had previously reached the level of agreement which was called the "strategic cooperation agreement" which the United States and Israel signed in November 1981, but which the United States suspended 3 weeks after it was signed as a punishment to Israel for annexing the Golan Heights. According to those who are asking us not to exaggerate things and put matters in their true perspective, this means that even in these agreements the United States has the right to suspend or freeze such agreements.

We should not lose sight of the following facts as we look for the secret behind the timing of the agreement:

1. That Reagan has come to the critical year, the election battle year, in which he has to measure most matters and weigh their effect on his chances of winning the election.

2. That in the meantime in the domestic field, Israel is in a serious stifling economic crisis and that, seeking to exploit the time factor facing Reagan, it wants to "grab" the biggest U.S. "package" that would save it from the dangers of the abyss into which it is sliding.

But regardless of these points and signs, which those who ask us not to indulge in overrating the U.S.-Israeli agreement want us to take into consideration, we have reasons to appreciate the "disaster" before it comes and to sense the dangers threatening: 1. our national security; 2. the Palestine problem; 3. peace in the area.

The agreement threatens our national security because — even within the limits of what has been said about it so far — it involves the danger of the United States shifting from a party having its own interests within its relations with the Arab countries to a party involved with Israel, which might drive the United States into becoming a fighting party in the area. Involvement, even by superpowers such as the United States and the Soviet Union, as a result of miscalculation, is not unlikely but rather possible. Suffice it to point to what happened to the Soviet Union in Afghanistan where its forces there have been fighting for 3 years, and to what is happening to the United States in Lebanon now. The United States came to Lebanon as a party which was supposed to protect peace and separate the combatant forces, but it soon made its first mistake by bombarding the Druze-controlled Ash-Shuf mountain with its naval guns. Regardless of the excuses the United States gave for taking this action, it has, in actual fact, become party to the fighting as if there are not enough parties fighting in Lebanon already without its becoming one of them.

The U.S.-Israeli strategic pact threatens the Palestine problem, even within the limits of what has been reported about it, because it gives Israel everything without seeming to take anything from it, not even in the question of the settlements which Israel is continuing to build speedily in the West Bank in order to obliterate the Bank's Palestinian character, which in the future will make them ask: Where is the Palestine you are talking about in the West Bank? Even this matter, which Reagan used to say is a stumbling block to any agreement in the area, was not raised at the Reagan-Shamir meeting. Following his return to Israel Shamir denied that "President Reagan has asked for halting the building of settlements or that this matter was discussed."

Under the strategic agreement with the United States, Israel has become an exporter of Israeli-made arms to the United States! Is there a more generous giving than this — the United States, the world's most powerful state, purchasing arms from Israel? Who knows, maybe in the future Israel will put restrictions on the freedom of the U.S. use of these arms!

The agreement, within what has been reported about it so far, threatens peace in the area. I would not be exaggerating to say that it threatens a potential U.S.-Soviet confrontation in the heart of this area.

If I were asked about the most important reasons for Israel's pressure on the United States in order to reach this agreement, I would say without reluctance that the principal reason in my view is the new Soviet missiles in Syria which, according to reports, can be fired from Syria and hit Israel in depth. In order to understand Israel's problem we must realize that it stems from two principal points:

First, because of its small area and small number of inhabitants who are concentrated in specific areas, Israel cannot accept the presence in any country of weapons capable of hitting it in depth.

Second, any peace, according to its concept, never means coexisting with its neighbors but being superior to them.

Israel is incapable of dealing with these missiles and therefore has brought pressure to bear on the United States to conclude this strategic agreement, whose objective is to curb the Soviet presence in the Middle East, which is also a U.S. objective, an objective which Israel alone is prepared to join with the United States to achieve. Shall we therefore believe those who ask us not to exaggerate the talk about the agreement or believe our own senses of what is to come and which point to future potential dangers? This is a question whose answer we should find by carefully and consciously watching the development of coming events.

Spokesman on 14 Dec Attack on Iranian Cities
JN141559 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1515 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

We did them no wrong, but they were used to doing wrong to themselves. [Koranic verse]

Great Iraqis, sons of the glorious Arab nation. The ruling clique in Iran insists on pursuing its unjust aggression against our valiant country and our glorious Arab nation, continues to reject all the peace calls issued by the UN Security Council and other parties of good-will for halting the war which has been imposed on our proud country by those who are tyrannizing the Iranian peoples, and continues to commit aggressions against Iraqi cities and peaceful border cities, and commit the vilest crimes against fraternal Arab countries with the purpose of harming their security and sovereignty.

In accordance with the military spokesman's statement on 12 December 1983 that we will be forced to reply to the source of aggression by military means, the following Iranian cities, which were selected as targets, were struck with success at 1700 this afternoon: Dezful, Andimeshk, Behbehan, Nahavand, and Ramhormoz. This was carried out in cooperation between our valiant Air Force and our able surface-to-surface missile system.

God is great and victory for our great Iraq and our glorious Arab nation. It is God who grants success. 14 December 1983

Armed Forces General Command Communique No 1,310
JN141720 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Dec (INA) — The Iraqi Armed Forces have killed several Iranians, wounded others, and destroyed military hardware and infantry positions in the operations sectors during the past 24 hours.

Military communique No 1,310 issued this evening by the Armed Forces General Command stated that an Iraqi combat patrol found several serviceable weapons and military hardware of various types in the northern sector. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,310 issued by the Armed Forces General Command. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Saddam Husayn's Al-Qadisiyah forces continue their valiant defense of great Iraq and the glorious Arab nation against the forces of the aggressor Iranian regime. The results yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. One of our forward units shelled an enemy patrol which tried to approach its forward positions east of Basra, forcing it to retreat after inflicting on it losses in life and equipment. Two infantry positions were destroyed in another area in the same sector.

2. An enemy troop concentration was sighted opposite one of our forward units' positions in the central sector of the battlefield. Our unit pounded the enemy troop concentration with all types of weapons, killing two and wounding others.

3. While carrying out their mission in front of our forward units' positions in the northern sector of the battlefield, our combat patrols found several serviceable weapons and military hardware of various types.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 14 December 1983

President Confers With Romanian Journalist
JN141207 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1133 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Dec (INA) — President Saddam Husayn received here today Romanian journalist and writer (Siger Noran) who held an intellectual and political conversation with the president on the Iranian regime's aggression and Iraq's firm stand in searching for peace and an end to the war. The conversation also touched on Iraq's development and revolutionary construction, its principles of pan-Arab struggle, and its role in the Nonaligned Movement.

The president's secretary and the director of the press and information bureau at the president's office attended the meeting.

Briefs

Outgoing Kuwaiti Ambassador—14 Dec (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, today received Kuwaiti Ambassador 'Abd al-'Aziz As-Sar'awi at the end of his term in Baghdad, They reviewed the two countries' fraternal relations, and expressed satisfaction with their development in the service of the two fraternal countries and the Arab nation. [Text][Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT 14 Dec 83 JN]

Prince Hasan Receives U.S. Envoy Rumsfeld 14 Dec
JN141440 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1426 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Amman, 14 Dec (PETRA) — His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, received at the Royal Hashemite Court at noon today Donald Rumsfeld, the U.S. President's Middle East envoy, who is currently visiting Jordan as part of a tour of several countries in the region.

The U.S. envoy presented his highness, the regent, with an explanation of his tour, which he is making upon the instructions of the U.S. President, and the various stages of his talks in the countries that he has visited.

The meeting was attended by 'Amir Khammash, the court minister, and the U.S. charge d'affaires in Amman.

Rumsfeld Leaves Amman 14 Dec
JN141926 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Donald Rumsfeld, the U.S. President's Middle East envoy, left Amman this evening following a brief visit to Jordan during which he met with His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent. During the meeting, the U.S. envoy presented his highness, the regent, with an explanation of his tour, which he is making upon the instructions of the U.S. President, and the various stages of his talks in the countries that he has visited.

Rumsfeld was seen off at the airport by the acting foreign ministry secretary general and the U.S. charge d'affaires in Amman. Rumsfeld arrived in Damascus this evening.

Papers on U.S., Israeli Practices in Lebanon
JN150931 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 15 Dec 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline, "The Escalation and Deviation Toward Destructive Polarization," *SAWT ASH-SHA'B* says: It seems that the United States, by using the big stick policy in Lebanon and because of its strategic alliance with Israel, has gradually begun to move toward the edge of the dangerous volcano in the Middle East, thus pushing the region toward polarization and a confrontation between the two international blocs that could cause this volcano to erupt.

Israel has accurately planned the moving of the United States from the role of arbiter and mediator to the role of partner and opponent in the Middle East conflict. Israel has used every opportunity to lead the United States to this role in order to divert attention from the issues and problems of the region to the larger problem of achieving Israel's plans of occupying Arab territories and usurping Palestinian and Arab rights.

Nobody can understand the U.S. concept of peace — whether it is presenting initiatives, dispatching envoys to the region's capitals to understand the facts; or whether it is military practices in the area, threatening the region's security, and changing the situation in light of Israel's aggressive and expansionist policies and practices in the Arab territory.

Forming a military alliance with Israel and supporting its policies cannot save Lebanon from foreign forces occupying its territory as long as Israel is an occupation party in Lebanon; cannot solve the Palestine cause as long as Israel is usurping the Palestinian rights and territory; and cannot achieve peace, security, and stability in the Middle East as long as force and gunboat diplomacy are winning over dialogue, mediation, and peace efforts.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B concludes: It seems that in the stage of weightlessness that precedes the presidential elections, Washington has chosen the Israeli alliance instead of the role of arbiter; the role of opponent instead of the role of evenhandedmediator; and has placed Israel's interests in the Arab region above its own interests and at its own expense. The U.S. commitment to Lebanon and the issue of peace in the Middle East requires influential work to put pressure on all parties to evacuate the foreign forces from Lebanon and to cooperate with all forces in the world within the framework of the UN resolutions representing an international consensus to hold an international conference on peace in the Middle East and to begin a dialogue with everyone, including the Palestinians and their legitimate representatives.

Under the headline "A Warning to the Adventurers," *AR-RA'Y* says: The Arab individual has the right to ask: Are the U.S. naval bombardment of the Lebanese mountain and the Israeli naval bombardment of Tripoli coincidence or the result of clear coordination between them because of the strategic cooperation agreement? The Arab individual also has the right to ask: Are the U.S. call to Israel that the Palestinian fighters besieged in Tripoli's port be allowed to depart without obstacles and the Israeli insistence on not giving guarantees to this effect logical matters in light of this agreement, or is this call merely the United States washing its hands of what Israel is preparing for these fighters?

Nobody doubts that the U.S. bombardment will minimize the opportunities for the success of the Lebanese national dialogue conference, which is expected to convene in Montreux, Switzerland, next Monday. The bombardment may also cause the conference to be delayed. Neither does anyone doubt that obstructing the departure of 'Arafat and the Palestinian fighters from Tripoli will escalate the dangerous situaiton there.

AR-RA'Y concludes: U.S. denunciations and threats in the wake of the explosions in Kuwait will not change the responsibility of U.S. practices toward Lebanon and the Palestine cause, practices that have created a gloomy climate in the region and raised questions about who is interested in such a situation, about the suspect hands and their links, and about the parties that have interests in these criminal acts.

U.S. Ships Bombard Mountain Area 14 Dec

NC141349 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1346 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] We have just received the following:

A security source said a short while ago that U.S. warships are bombarding the Jiwar al-Hawz, Tarshish, and Dahr al-Baydar areas [in the mountain].

'New Jersey' Bombards Mountain

NC141403 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1357 GMT 14 De c83

[Telephone dispatch from the editorial room of the National Information Agency — live]

[Text] A security source has reported that it was the U.S. battleship *New Jersey* which bombarded the areas of Dahr al-Baydar, Tarshish, and Jiwar al-Hawz [in the mountain] a quarter of an hour ago.

Marine Guard Opens Fire at Taxi Near Airport

NC151212 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1205 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] A guard at the U.S. Marine base in Beirut fired on a Lebanese taxi at theentrance to the base, where the suicide bombing attack took place last October.

The taxi driver was badly wounded and a member of an American television crew in the taxi was also injured.

A Marine spokesman said the taxi turned into the base and did not stop when a warning shot was fired.

Israeli Tanks Cross Al-Awwali River 14 Dec

NC141207 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1155 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Excerpt] We have now received a news report that clashes on the Mar Mikhayil-the Old Sidon Road-Sfayr and Mahattat al-Mu'allim axis have become violent and that two soldiers have been martyred as a result of the shelling.

We have also received a report that 16 Israeli tanks crossed the Al-Awwali River this afternoon in a column consisting of 26 troop carriers, 6 jeeps, and 4 bulldozers.

Their destination is not yet known, but it is believed they are heading toward Dayr al-Qamar.

Some 185 personnel from the security forces have been recruited by Commander of the 'Ayn Zhalta Platoon Captain Talal al-Haj, assisted by 10 officers to depart for Dayr al-Qamar early tomorrow morning.

Israeli Gunboats in Tripoli Come Under Fire

NC142037 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Our correspondent in Tripoli reports that Israeli gunboats appeared at 1930 tonight opposite Tripoli where they came under artillery fire from the coast until 2030. The boats did not return the fire.

Israelis To Act as 'Escort' for Lebanese Forces

NC150637 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0605 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] We have just received a report that the Army positions in Khaldah came under RPG and machinegun fire today from 0600 to 0640, when the Army returned the fire and silenced its sources.

We have also received a report from the south that the Israeli forces this morning took strict security measures, especially on the Al-Awwali Bridge, where they imposed a curfew.

A convoy of tanks and armored vehicles was seen crossing the bridge toward the Ash-Shuf to escort the members of the Lebanese Forces who are expected to arrive from Dayr al-Qamar before noon today via Kafr Him, Ad-Damur, Al-Jiyah, Wadi az-Zayinah, Ar-Rumaylah, the old 'Alman Bridge, and Majdalun.

The civilians' convoy is expected to arrive via Batir, Jazzin, and Sidon. The Israeli forces this morning closed all the approaches leading to the center of Sidon. The Israeli forces have taken extremely strict security measures in the center of Sidon, where scores of soldiers have been deployed among buildings and on rooftops.

Syrian Shells Land Near Israeli Positions

NC150928 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] Israeli military aircraft have been flying in Lebanese airspace since 1000 today on reconnaissance missions. At approximately 0950 today, a shell fell on Ad-Dalhamiyah hill above Ad-Damur, where an Israeli force is positioned. Another shell fell near the Ad-Damur Bridge. It was learned that the two shells were fired from Syrian positions in upper Al-Matn.

VOL Reports on Israeli Presence in Ad-Damur

NC150935 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] The Israeli force heading for the Ad-Damur Bridge is comprised of 34 armored personnel carriers, 216 trucks, 12 cranes, 3 tanker trucks, 17 pickup trucks, and 15 jeeps. The Israelis cut the Beirut-Sidon Road at An-Nijmah Square [in Sidon]and the Sidon-Jazzin Road near the Al-Hilaliyah area. They also imposed a curfew on the coastal road between Sidon and Beirut.

Reportage on Killing of French Soldiers

Officer Killed in Shelling

NC150757 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0745 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] A French contingent spokesman has stated that an officer in the French contingent was killed during the artillery shelling of Beirut last night. The spokesman said the officer was on an observation mission when the Junblatt shelling of the capital intensified.

2 Soldiers Reported Killed

LD150865 Paris Domestic Service in French 0800 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] Misfortune continues in Lebanon for the French contingent of the Multinational Force. For the second time in 3 days, a parachutist was killed yesterday evening, a victim of the bombardments between the Lebanese Army and the antigovernment forces.

France has already paid a heavy toll for the defense of peace in Beirut — 80 dead in little more than a year. Certain reports coming in speak of a second French soldier killed this morning, this time by an isolated sniper. However, the contingent's spokesman has not yet confirmed this.

Paratrooper Killed

NC150834 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] In a telephone conversation with Voice of Lebanon, a French contingent spokesman said a French paratrooper was killed near the Palais des Pins [in Beirut] at 0800 today by gunmen who passed through that area. Two French soldiers tried to shoot the assailants, who ran away.

Ministry Confirms Two Deaths

LD151152 Paris Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] The Ministry of Defense confirms the death in Beirut of two French paratroopers. The first paratrooper, a noncommissioned officer, was killed shortly before midnight by a shell which fell close to an observation post.

The second paratrooper was killed this morning near the Residence des Pins, the headquarters of the French contingent in Beirut. The paratrooper was taking out trash cans when a car suddenly stopped. He was shot in the back; the weapon used was fitted with a silencer.

The two other French soldiers who were responsible for his safety hardly had time to fire back. The terrorist car sped away and was lost in traffic. This was a true terrorist incident, well organized and well prepared.

Al-Jumayyil Talks to Reporters in London

NC150806 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Dispatch by unidentified member of the Information Ministry mission accompanying President Amin al-Jumayyil on his visit to London — live]

[Excerpts] After a long day of talks with British officials — first in the foreign office, then at the prime minister's office at 10 Downing Street, then at Buckingham Palace with Queen Elizabeth, and finally at the House of Commons with the opposition Labor Party — President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil described his meetings with the British officials as useful. The open dialogue between the parties enabled us to clarify many things, he said, adding that he felt the British were genuinely concerned about the Lebanese crisis and determined to continue the mission performed by the British contingent in Beirut.

President al-Jumayyil disclosed that preparations are continuing to convene the second stage of the Geneva conference, and that envoys have begun contacts with the parties concerned to ensure the convening of this conference soon, and perhaps in the coming week in a Swiss city which could be other than Geneva. President al-Jumayyil was speaking during a meeting he held yesterday evening at the Claridge Hotel, where he is staying, with Lebanese journalists who are staying in London.

The president began the meeting by speaking about the outcome of his visit to Britain. He said: The visit was necessary to thank the British for their participation in the Multinational Force and to clarify some matters we are dealing with in Lebanon. The visit was very useful. The meetings which we held with the foreign secretary, the prime minister, the queen, and in the afternoon in the House of Commons were very useful. We were able, through the open dialogue which took place between me and the officials, to explain many matters which needed clarification. They raised many questions regarding the Lebanese crisis — our efforts to rebuild the Army and bring about reconciliation, what happened in Geneva, Lebanon's external relations, including relations with Syria and the United States — because they are directly concerned with what is happening.

President al-Jumayyil added: They sought clarifications to understand what is happening in Lebanon. They affirmed their support for Lebanon's sovereignty and the principles under which they sent troops to Lebanon to restore Lebanese sovereignty and to assist the government in establishing its authority. The British were clear regarding their adherence to their commitment regarding the mission of the British contingent in Lebanon. We talked about the assistance which could be given to us at the political or international levels, because the British have friends, and they have placed all their potential at our disposal in order to overcome the ordeal.

The president also said: The most important thing we felt was the concern of the British officials in their dealings with the Lebanese crisis. This was true of both government and party officials, including the opposition parties. We sensed from them the extent of their support for the unity of Lebanon and their concern with what is happening in Lebanon. We felt during the

talks the extent of their concern with the Lebanese crisis and their adherence to the declared aims. We felt strong British sympathy toward Lebanon and the readiness to offer every possible assistance.

The president said: We were able to close ranks on support for Lebanon. We explained that we in Lebanon are throwing the ball in anyone's court and will not abandon our responsibilities or shift them to others. We stated clearly that we are fulfulling totally our responsibilities to rebuild the Lebanese Army on a sound and effective basis, so it can play its full role and shoulder its responsibility throughout Lebanon, thus permitting us to gradually dispense with the forces which have thankfully helped us restore security in Lebanon. We do not wish to keep these forces forever. We hope we can save our homeland, and this is our responsibility.

President al-Jumayyil said: I talked with the British officials about the reconciliation issue and the efforts we are exerting to convene the second stage of the Geneva conference. Envoys will be sent to Zgharta [in northern Lebanon] and Saudi Arabia, and to the parties concerned, to intensify the contacts and complete the preparation work for the second stage of the Geneva conference and to achieve the aims for which we have called the Geneva conference. We hope that we will be able, through this conference, to quickly reach an understanding on the objectives and basic guidelines. The conference will be the crowning achievement of this understanding and dialogue.

President al-Jummayil said: Relations with Syria are continuously improving. Contacts are continuing so we can revive our relations with Syria and place them in a sound framework. We put the British officials in the picture and explained all these matters to them.

Asked whether the question of the supply of arms wqs raised in the talks with the British officials, President al-Jumayyil said this subject is the responsibility of the executive authority. He added: I am here in Britain to continue the contacts that I began after the Geneva conference. We may return, or ministers or delegations may return, to discuss issues in detail.

Asked whether Britain may suddenly withdraw its forces from Lebanon, President al-Jumayyil said: We sensed support and assurances regarding the continuation of the British troops' mission. This question, actually, was not discussed. There is satisfaction with the role being played by the Multinational Force, particularly the British contingent. It is a peace contingent that is totally fulfilling its role. The president pointed out that the British opposition originally approved the dispatch of a British contingent to Beirut. He said: During my meetings with the opposition leaders I felt direct sympathy and support.

Asked whether the military escalation that Beirut, the mountain, and Beirut's suburbs have witnessed in the past 2 days will either delay or hasten the convening of the second stage of the Geneva conference, President al-Jumayyil said: We are seeking to convene the second stage of the Geneva conference next week. Envoys will leave tomorrow to discuss the possibility of convening the Geneva conference next week. The conference may not be held in Geneva itself, but it will be held in Switzerland. We are interested in completing this course, which we have started successfully. There are positive elements that we do not want to lose. We want speed but not haste. We shall not call for the second stage of the dialogue conference before we are sure of the possibility of success.

The president added: Contacts with Syria will continue to determine whether we can tackle some thorny issues. We may circumvent the issue of the 17 May agreement at this stage and let the next government deal with it. As for the issue of reforms, there is no disagreement about them.

The president reaffirmed that Britain promised to support Lebanon by all means at home and abroad, and that the British officials expressed their readiness to do that.

Regarding the measures Israel is taking in southern Lebanon, the president said Lebanon has informed the United Nations about these measures, and the matter is now being dealt with. He added: We do not accept frontiers between one Lebanese area and another. We are following up the matter to achieve our objectives.

Asked his opinoin on the objection of some parties in Lebanon to the role of the U.S. contingent and on their view that it has changed from a peace force to an offensive force, President al-Jumayyil said: I cannot prevent the Americans from defending themselves. If there is disagreement between these parties and the Americans, it is not Lebanon's fault. The more we expedite the convening of the Geneva conference, the quicker the end of every foreign presence will be. If we want to terminate this abnormal situation, we must meet to reach effective Lebanese solutions to end our crisis. We must try. I cannot prevent the Americans from defending themselves, because this is a sacred right. We do not want to enter into this argument. What we are interested in is reaching Lebanese reconciliation as soon as possible to end shooting, the armed presence, everything that is taking place on Lebanese territory, and the Lebanese people's sufferings. What is happening is taking place at the expense of every Lebanese village, the Lebanese people, and the Lebanese citizen. We are paying the price of the war being fought by others. We want to quickly find a Lebanese solution to end the fighting.

Asked whether the U.S.-Syrian tension will affect the future of the relations between the two countries and the dialogue issue, President al-Jumayyil said: Contacts existed between the United States and Syria during the most difficult circumstances, and there have been assurances over the continuation of relations.

Regarding the 17 May agreement, President al-Jumayyil said: What interests us is the spirit of the 17 May agreement; that is, the foreign forces' withdrawal. We support any solution ensuring the foreign forces' withdrawal. I have often said and I repeat that the agreement is a means and not an objective. The objective is the foreign forces' withdrawal from Lebanon. If we had a strong Army, we would not have reached this situation. If we had been able to secure resolutions from the United Nations that could have been implemented, we would have done that. All the resolutions remained mere ink on paper. There have been more than 25 resolutions on the Lebanese issue, and there have been

more than 100 resolutions calling for the return of Palestine to the Palestinians. Were these resolutions implemented? If anyone has a better way, let him show us. Negotiations are the best way to an agreement. During the negotiations, we were aware of our national duties and responsibilities. We reached an agreement that guarantees Lebanon's borders, sovereignty, and independence, and in which the Israelis accepted a withdrawal from Lebanon. The security arrangements contained in the agreement are much less than those established between some other states. If we had been able to drive the Israelis out by force, we would have done that, and we would have done that with regard to all the foreign forces. We signed the agreement. The withdrawal of the Syrian forces from Lebanon is a condition for its implementation. This matter was not originally contained in the agreement. The agreement is now in a crisis. The reason is the two sides' intransigence. We are trying to cirumvent the text of the agreement. We are discussing with all our friends ways to achieve the objective — the foreign forces' withdrawal from Lebanon.

Asked about the results of his visit to Washington, President al-Jumayyil said: First, we secured the U.S. Administration's support in bolstering the peace process in Lebanon. This support was translated into the formation of a joint committee to draw up the practical means for achieving this objective. Before I left Beirut, the Cabinet decided that the Lebanese side to the committee will comprise Wadi' Haddad, Muhammad 'Atallah, 'Abbas Hamdan, and Lebanon's Ambassador in Washington 'Abdallah Abu Habib. The U.S. side is led by Donald Rumsfeld, President Reagan's personal envoy to the Middle East. Second, we secured support for Lebanon's position in Israel. Israel will not withdraw without prior coordination with the Lebanese Government, and Israel will be encouraged to make withdrawals within the context of the present situation, irrespective of whether the Lebanese Government ratifies the 17 May agreement or not. We are trying to circumvent the agreement and seek further Israeli withdrawals from Lebanon. This will encourage the creation of positive atmosphere that will perhaps encourage the continuation of the dialogue with Syria.

Asked about the anticipated summit between himself and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, President al-Jumayyil said contacts are taking place between Lebanon and Damascus. Visits are taking place by envoys and the foreign minister from time to time. He expressed the hope that the summit meeting between himself and President al-Asad will take place when President al-Asad fully recovers from his illness. He expressed his satisfaction with the meeting between President al-Asad and Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal. He said this is encouraging, because Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal would have raised the subject of Lebanon during his meeting with President al-Asad.

Regarding the Saudi role, President al-Jumayyil said Saudi Arabia has played an effective role in the salvation process. The role played by King Fahd is basic, and his attitude was that of Lebanon's big brother throughout the ordeal. We as Lebanese appreciate the efforts King Fahd has exerted and is exerting, and he is continuing to play such a role. Asked about the continuation of the cease-fire violations and the question of sending international observers, President al-Jumayyil said that cease-fire declarations basically depend on the goodwill of the parties, because there is no instrument to deter and supervise the implementation of such decisions. The states that were invited to send neutral observers to supervise the cease-fire seem to be less enthusiastic about sending these observers.

The president said only genuine reconciliation and the achievement of a solution with Syria will solve the Lebanese crisis. These are two conditions for the cessation of fighting in Lebanon. The continuation of the fighting will affect Syria and other countries. It is in everyone's interest to end the fighting in Lebanon and to restore normal relations with Syria. The Lebanese and Syrian people have common interests. Differences cannot be solved through shelling, but through dialogue and understanding.

Al-Jumayyil, Thatcher Meet To Discuss Lebanon

For reportage on President Amin al-Jumayyil's visit to the United Kingdom, including his statements following a meeting with Prime Minister Thatcher and her response, see the United Kingdom section of the 15 December Western Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Al-As'ad on Meeting To Discuss Current Issues

NC141924 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Telephone dispatch by National Information Agency correspondent Marun Hubayqah from the Chamber of Deputies — recorded]

[Excerpts] At its meeting today under the chairmanship of Speaker Kamil al-As'ad and with the presence of 15 bloc deputies, the independent parliamentary bloc discussed issues related to the general situation in the country, particularly the question of liberation, the rejection of the Cabinet's resignation, the explosions in Kuwait, the new chapter with Syria, the deterioration of the security situation, the failure to convene the Security Arrangements Committee, the blasts in Western Beirut churches, and finally the U.S. initiative. After the meeting, Speaker al-As'ad said: We discussed the general situation in the country, particularly the question of liberation.

Naturally, we discussed the recent explosions in Kuwait. We consider them an expansion of the Vietnamization of the entire Middle East area and of the Arab region. We also consider them a sign that the famous Kissinger plan aimed at fragmenting the Arab entity into entities based on some kind of racist sectarianism is still in force.

Speaker al-As'ad added: Regarding the government situation, it is certain that the bloc has its own stand on the government which has no clear plan. The rejection of the government's resignation or backing down on it is a redress of the previous situation — the presence of an outgoing government under fateful critical circumstances. This situation could not continue.

Concerning the new chapter with Syria, Speaker al-As'ad said: This is what we are seeking to find out from the government. What is this new chapter? In order that there should be a new

chapter, there must be an understanding and an identity of views on the plan and the way leading to the liberation of the land. Any understanding at the expense of this fact is not a new chapter but a fall into the whirlpool of contradictions, which would lead to the consolidation of the liquidationist and partition:it reality.

Regarding the continued deterioration in the security situation and the failure to convene the Security Arrangements Committee, Speaker al-As'ad said: This is what makes us doubt that there is a new chapter and a real decision to change the situation. This will be clarified by the government's statement or the developments.

Concerning the blasting of churches, after the blasting of houses and shops, Al-As'ad said: This is also a sign to what I previously said, that the Zionist-Kissinger plan is still alive. Bombing the churches and the evacation of a certain faction from Western Beirut after what happened in Ash-Shuf as a result of the Israeli withdrawal are proofs of what I said.

Asked if he expects a unified Arab reaction following the incidents in Kuwait, Al-As'ad said: I believe that Arab solidarity is an established fact vis-a-vis the Arab fate. Regrettably, there is no evidence of this Arab solidarity but there is fragmentation, the price of which we have paid in Lebanon as the first result of the comprehensive Arab defeat.

Speaker al-As'ad was finally asked: Does he mean that the United States has abandoned its commitments in lebanon? He answered: There is no change. Our question so far has been: Where is the U.S. initiative leading? The fact that some commitments and pledges have not been interpretated into deeds give further emphasis to the question: Where is the U.S. initiative leading?

Lebanese Front Discusses Church Explosions

NC141114 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] During its weekly meeting today, the Lebanese Front discussed the security and political situation. It dwelt on the explosions that rocked some churches in West Beirut and on the issue of Dayr al-Qamar.

[Former] President Camille Sham'un said the discussions touched on the issue of Dayr al-Qamar because the evacuation of the besieged citizens will commence tomorrow. He added: We hope this will herald peace and tranquillity in the country.

[Phalangist Party leader] Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil said: The circumstances through which we are passing and the acts of terrorism, being perpetrated by the aliens, make it incumbent upon the Lebanese to concert their ranks.

He said: I cannot believe that a faithful Lebanese, regardless of his religious fanaticism, would ever embark upon carrying acts such as those carried out yesterday against a number of churches. I believe, Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil said, that the perpetrators must be atheists.

Security Forces Ready To Assume Duty in North

NC141612 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Excerpt] The chairman of the political committee stemming from the coordination committee in the north has stated that the Internal Security Forces will assume their positions in Tripoli in 24 hours as agreed upon in the departure plan for the armed Palestinians. He stressed that the armed men and weapons will be withdrawn from Tripoli within a few days in order that it may return to normalcy. He asked the economic and social leaders to contribute to the restoration of normal life. Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has asked Hisham ash-Sha'ar to go to Tripoli to represent him during the departure of the gunmen from the capital of the north, in accordance with the arrangements agreed upon with the appropriate Lebanese authorities.

Junblatt on U.S. Shelling, Meeting With Rumsfeld

JN141145 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1100 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party has stated that yesterday's U.S. shelling of a number of positions in the Lebanese mountain constitutes a prelude to a large-scale military operation aimed at controlling the southern Beirut suburbs and part of the mountain. He added that this shelling will harm the Lebanese national reconciliation march which began at the Geneva conference. Junblatt said that the U.S. forces' shelling of the mountain proves that President Reagan's administration has resorted to force so as to solve Lebanese differences in cooperation with the Phalangists and the hardliners in the Lebanese Army.

Junblatt also said that during his coming meeting with Donald Rumsfeld, U.S. special envoy to the Middle East, who has arrived in Amman, he will explain to him that the impudent U.S. policy of despising the Arab and Islamic worlds will inevitably lead to bitterness and retaliation by the peoples in the region. On the question of forming a national unity government in Lebanon, Junblatt ruled out his party's participation in such a government before realizing the reforms agreed on at the Geneva conference, particularly concerning a national charter based on a new constitution that would take into account the new social, economic, and demographic facts in Lebanon.

Junblatt Meets Rumsfeld in Amman 14 Dec

JN142133 Amman Domestic Servic in Arabic 2100 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Walid Junblatt, leader of the Druze community in Lebanon, held talks in Amman today with Donald Rumsfeld. The talks lasted for 90 minutes. Speaking after the meeting, Junblatt said that his talks with Rumsfeld dealt with the situation in Lebanon and the possibility of resuming the Lebanese National Dialogue Conference in Geneva. Junblatt noted that the UK secretary of defense and the minister of state for foreign affairs telephoned him today to discuss the condition of the UK contingent operating under the Multinational Force in Lebanon.

U.S. Act of 'Premeditated Aggression' Reported

JN141826 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] A military spokesman has reported the following: For the second time in 24 hours, U.S. forces have conducted an act of premeditated aggression against our forces' positions in Lebanon. At 1530 today, 14 December 1983, U.S. Air Force planes overflew our forces' positions in the areas of Al-Matn and Dahr al-Baydar. Our air defense units confronted the planes and forced them to return toward the sea. Immediately thereafter, U.S. ships anchored to the west of Beirut opened fire on some of our positions in Lebanon for 15 minutes, wounding one of our soldiers.

Commentary on 'New Aggression'

JN141846 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] As part of the Reagan administration's military escalation against Syria, U.S. forces have launched a new act of aggression. Two vessels opened fire on some of our positions in Lebanon, and U.S. warplanes had earlier overflown those areas. These planes were confronted by our air defense units and forced to return toward the sea. This provocative flight, which was planned within the framework of a premeditated act of aggression, coincided with the Damascus rally during which Syria reaffirmed its determination to foil all liquidationist plans and to confront U.S.-Israeli policy in the region. It seems that the Amercians were irritated by the voice of the Damascus masses, who condemned the U.S.-Israeli alliance and affirmed their absolute unity with the party and our leader, Al-Asad, to deter U.S.-Israeli aggression. Therefore, they shelled some of our positions as part of a premeditated aggressive plan to strike — as Washington's reports put it — at Syrian targets chosen by U.S. militarists.

The use of ships was recommended by U.S. military commanders following the failure of the U.S. Air Force to achieve its objectives through its raid on some of our positions in Lebanon — a raid which resulted in the downing of three U.S. warplanes. It also resulted in U.S. disappointment and a great amount of criticism of U.S. military escalation in the region. If the Americans believe that they can succeed in using naval force after the failure of their Air Force, they will discover that neither naval, air, nor ground forces will be able to change Syria's position, regardless of how much they step up their aggression. President Reagan says that the time of weakness has gone for good and that he wants to use force. We will answer force with force. We will not be frightened by planes or guns, and we have the ability to inflict more harm on the aggressors than they might expect. We will continue to confront every aggressor who has ambitions in our land and everyone who despises our rights. We will reply to any act of aggression or provocation in an appropriate manner, because self-defense is natural, legitimate, and above the logic of force. This is particularly true when force is used to launch an act of aggression against other people in their own land and homes, as was done by the brutal U.S. force — which epitomizes the law of the jungle and stresses aggressive instincts while claiming to be concerned about peace and security in the world. Peace cannot be achieved either by attacking other people or by using or threatening to use force, as President Reagan's administration does. Nor can it be attained by concluding military agreements with an aggressive, settlement-oriented entity. Such an agreement was the one concluded by the Reagan administration with the government of Yitzhaq Shamir. This agreement arose — as the Americans and Israelis put it — to confront Syria and to launch acts of aggression against it under the pretext that Syria has adopted a radical stand leading to regional instability.

The factors of tension prevailing in the region are caused by aggressive U.S.-Israeli policy, which seeks to spread domination, strengthen occupation, and expand at the expense of the Arab homeland and its wealth. It is this policy which led to regional instability and to the undermining of any opportunity to attain a just peace as approved by the UN laws and Charter. By confronting this policy, Syria wants to save itself and the Arab nation from harm and to foil all suspect settlement plans. It will maintain its position regardless of the scope of the aggression or the sacrifices involved.

Press Comment on U.S. 'Escalation'

JN150923 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Press review]

[Text] On the subject of U.S. imperialism's continuing hostile military escalation against Syrian Arab forces in Lebanon and the Lebanese nationalist forces, today's *AL-BA'TH* commentary states: This U.S. military escalation, which is increasing day by day, is undoubtedly based on a premeditated hostile plan to strike at Syrian forces and upset the entire equation in favor of U.S. and Israeli aims. It would appear that the implementation of this plan has been entrusted to the U.S. military men in Lebanon, and that they need not consult Washington first. U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger revealed this yesterday when he was asked why U.S. warships were used to shell Syrian positions. He replied that U.S. officers there are authorized to make the necessary decisions.

Although Weinberger's answer highlighted part of the issue, it tried to conceal other matters, chief of which is the fact that the United States used its warships only after its aircraft failed to harm our forces in Lebanon, after the Syrian forces downed three U.S. aircraft, and after the lord of the White House was greatly disappointed. By using warships against our forces in Lebanon, U.S. aggression has taken on a different form. Washington is trying to cover up its failure and win successes that will satisfy Reagan's illusions. Indeed, Reagan has begun to prepare for the U.S. elections under the slogan: The time of U.S. weakness has passed.

The paper adds: It is clear that the policy of using warships is the real policy of the U.S. Administration. Talk about achieving security and peace in the region falls within the framework of delusion, particularly after the signing of the strategic agreement between the United States and Israel. Those who trumpet this

delusion most strongly are unable to conceal the facts, because it is the logic of aggression which alone determines U.S. policy toward Arab rights.

AL-BA'TH continues: Nevertheless, this open and aggressive U.S. logic is met by clear, unequivocal Syrian logic. It is the logic of self-defense and the logic of defending land and destiny and driving harm and evil away from our nation and people. In accord with this logic, only we tell the masters of the White House that we will confront any new U.S. aggression as strongly and firmly as our forces confronted the act of aggression involving U.S. aircraft.

The Syrian masses, which voiced the mammoth Arab anger against U.S. aggression and the U.S.-Israeli alliance, will continue to raise their voices in the face of U.S. piracy. These masses will reply to any provocation quite confident that, with the support of the Arab masses, they can formulate an answer to the new crusade campaign that will be both comprehensive and strong.

In its "Behind the News" column, *TISHRIN* writes: For the second time in 24 hours, U.S. naval forces — both aircraft and warships — launched another act of aggression against some of our positions in Lebanon. The U.S. war department was quick to confirm the shelling and stressed that the warship *New Jersey* had carried out the operation. This is the first time that this warship has taken part in piratical actions against targets in Lebanon. It is not important whether it was the *New Jersey* or some other U.S. warship or destroyer off the Lebanese coast that carried out this latest act of aggression. Nevertheless, the involvement of this warship, described as the largest in the world, means that Reagan's administration will not hesitate to use every type of weapon to try to impose its will on Syria.

What is important is that U.S. policy has been exposed, even to many of those who previously gambled on a U.S. role not biased in favor of Israel. Moreover, Reagan's hostile intentions toward the interests of the Arab nation have also been exposed, though the direct target is Syria.

The paper adds: The peace which the U.S. Administration is talking about will not come through the barrel of a gun or the amassing of fleets and warships. The U.S. military buildup in Lebanon was intended to consecrate and legalize the Zionist occupation of Lebanese Arab lands and to increase foreign occupation under the flag of the Multinational Force.

Concluding, the paper declares: The Reagan administration should today reconsider its policies toward the region and the Arab question. It must wake up from its dream of a Middle East linked to imperialist policy. The future of the region will be shaped only by its people and only in their interest.

U.S. Envoy Donald Rumsfeld Arrives 14 Dec

JN141831 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] U.S. envoy Donald Rumsfeld arrived in Damascus at 1830 today. He was welcomed at Damascus International Airport by Dr Sami Khalil, director of the U.S. desk at the Foreign Ministry, the assistant director of protocol at the ministry, the U.S. ambassador in Damascus, and the embassy staff.

Received by Khaddam

JN142000 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, received U.S. envoy Donald Rumsfeld at 2030 tonight. Robert Pelletreau, an assistant to the U.S. envoy, and the U.S. ambassador in Damascus were also present at the meeting.

The two sides discussed the current state of affairs in the region.

Holds Second Round of Talks

JN151323 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] U.S. envoy to the Middle East Donald Rumsfeld, who arrived in the Syrian capital from Amman yesterday, held a second round of talks today with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. Their discussion dealt with the Lebanese situation. The Syrian and U.S. sides declined to make any statements concerning the content of the talks. According to informed sources, Rumsfeld is due to leave Damascus today.

Departs 15 December

JN151430 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] U.S. Special Envoy Donald Rumsfeld left Damascus this afternoon following a short visit to Syria.

Saudi Foreign Minister Arrives in Damascus 14 Dec

JN141233 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Damascus — Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal arrived here today. He was received at Damascus International Airport by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, the chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry, and the Saudi ambassador and embassy staff in Damascus.

Received by Al-Asad

JN141418 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1405 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Damascus, 14 Dec (SANA) — At 1330 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal. 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, and the Saudi ambassador in Damascus, 'Abdallah Salih al-Fadl, also attended the meeting. Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal conveyed a message to the president from King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz concerning the regional situation and

developments in the Lebanese arena. The president then asked him to carry a reply to King Fahd. Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal also expressed King Fahd's congratulations to the president on his recovery, and his wishes for continued good health. Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal then personally congratulated his excellency, and passed along his own most sincere wishes.

During the meeting, talks were devoted to the latest regional developments in light of U.S. and Israeli threats and provocations against Syria and the continued U.S.-Israeli escalation of the regional situation.

Meets Khaddam, Departs

JN141912 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, received Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal in Damascus at 1530 today. During their meeting, they discussed the current Arab situation.

Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal arrived in Damascus at noon today, and was received at Damascus International Airport by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, the chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry, and the Saudi ambassador in Damascus and the embassy staff. The Saudi foreign minister left Damascus this evening.

Khaddam, Kuwaiti Envoy Review 'Current' Situation

LD142012 Kuwait KUNA in English 1353 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Damascus, Dec 14 (KUNA) — Kuwaiti Ambassador to Syria 'Abd ar-Razaq al-Kandari Wednesday met with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam for talks over the current Arab situation. The talks mainly focused on the situation in Lebanon as well as the American-Syrian relations.

The Syrian official also briefed the Kuwaiti diplomat on the Lebanese Foreign [Minister] Elie Salim's latest visit to Syria. Salim visited Damascus last Friday for talks over latest developments in the Middle East.

Al-Ahmar Receives NSSP Leader 14 Dec

JN141256 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] In Damascus this afternoon, Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, received Brother In'am Ra'd, leader of the National Syrian Socialist Party [NSSP] in Lebanon; and Brother Mahmud 'Abd al-Khaliq, president of the party's council of [words indistinct].

Brother Ra'd told the comrade assistant secretary general of the NSSP's solidarity with and support of Syria under the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and its secretary general, comrade struggler President Hafiz al-Asad. He noted that this support revolves around Syria's steadfastness and confrontation of the U.S.-Zionist forces of aggression and its defense of Lebanon and the Arab nation.

The two sides reviewed the situation in Lebanon and the Arab region, and discussed the efforts which must be made by the popular parties, forces, and organizations to mobilize Arab capabilities and potentials in support of Syria to confront the possible aggression and to foil the imperialist-Zionist design against the Arab nation.

People's Assembly Delegation Returns From India

JN141943 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] The People's Assembly delegation led by Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi returned to Damascus this afternoon following a 10-day visit to India. Az-Zu'bi and his accompanying delegation were received at Damascus International Airport by the deputy speaker of the People's Assembly, 'Ali Rida, and by members of the assembly office and the heads and members of its committees. They were also greeted by 'Abd ar-Rahman Burawi, secretary general of the Arab Parliamentary Union, the Indian ambassador in Damascus, and a number of People's Assembly members.

Karami Receives Egyptian 'Popular' Delegation

JN150711 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] Damascus — Former Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami received an Egyptian popular delegation yesterday. The group included Councillor Salah 'Abd al-Majid, member of the NPUG General Secretariat; the lawyer Ahmad Mujahid, former member of the Egyptian People's Assembly, the lawyer 'Atiyah Sulayman, member of the Egyptian Bar Association's committee in defense of freedom, and Dr Safwat Hatim, member of the NPUG Central Committee.

The two sides exchanged views on developments in the Lebanese and Palestinian arenas, and on the U.S. military escalation against Syria and Lebanon. The delegation briefed Karami on its opinion concerning the formation of an Arab popular committee. The purpose of this committee would be to heal the rift and rectify the situation in Palestine with a view to maintaining the unity of the Palestinian revolution and the continuation of its march in accordance with its national charter for the sake of achieving the aims of both the Palestinian people and the Arab nation.

Karami explained the Lebanese situation to the Egyptian popular delegation, and also discussed the firm stance adopted by the Lebanese nationalist forces toward the 17 May agreement and their insistence on its cancellation as a step in resolving the Lebanese crisis and attaining a Lebanese national accord. Karami welcomed any effort aimed at bolstering the Palestinian revolution and its unity with the solid Syrian stand and the Lebanese nationalist forces in their confrontation of imperialist-Zionist aggression against the Arab nation.

Al-Asad Reportedly To Receive Treatment in Switzerland

TA151117 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] This report is just in from the newsroom: Syria's president, Hafiz al-Asad, will be flying to Switzerland shortly for prolonged medical treatment. This from our reporter Sari Robert in Geneva. The Syrian Embassy in Berne has applied to the Justice Ministry in Switzerland in the canton of Berne for permission to buy two villas in preparation for Al-Asad's stay.

Kenya, Tanzania Renew Diplomatic Ties

TA150626 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 15 Dec 83 p 3

[Text] Kenya and Tanzania, normalizing ties after a six-year chill, agreed yesterday immediately to establish ambassadorial-level diplomatic relations.

Military Source on Soviet Role in Syria

TA141612 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1555 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] There are signs that the Soviets are considering transferring the operation of the SAM-5's to the Syrians. This was stated by a military source to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. Our correspondent in the Knesset Sha'ul Stav said military source reported this is a complicated process which will take a long time, and the assumption is that the Soviet Union would like to avoid a situation in which it will have to shoot missiles at IDF or U.S. aircraft. The military source went on to say that the Soviet attitude in the area is usually characterized by great caution. The Soviet Union is definitely a moderating element, the source said, and not one encouraging provocation.

Further Comments

TA141741 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] A senior official in the defense system said there is no certainty that Syria has decided to renew fighting with Israel in the spring. In a discussion at the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, the senior official said that the Soviets are considering letting the Syrian Army operate the SAM-5 batteries, but this is a prolonged process. In Israel it is thought that the Soviets would like to prevent deterioration of the military situation. The Soviets do not want to get involved in an incident in which they have to shoot missiles at IDF or U.S. planes.

Our correspondent Arye Golan reports that according to the senior official, because the Soviets support Syria, it is easier for them to explain to the Damascus leaders that they had better not raise the tension. The senior official noted that the United States does not coordinate its military activity in Lebanon with Israel; Navy and Marine commanders have a free hand in determining their actions.

As for the Shi'ite terrorists, the senior official said that it appears they organized the wave of attacks in Kuwait from inside that country or from Iran. Israel is aware of the fact that Shi'ite terrorism is worse than past estimates, and preparations should be made to deal with it.

Syria Evacuates Some Positions for Winter

TA141809 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1740 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Southern Lebanon, 14 Dec (ITIM) — The Syrian forces in Al-Biqa' this week evacuated troops which up to now were stationed in a number of front posts opposite the Israeli forces.

The ITIM correspondent in the north reports that IDF observers reported, even before the cold and snow began, that the Syrians evacuated forces apparently in order to prevent disasters like those which occured last year when Syrian soldiers froze to death. The IDF observers, who closely follow the activity on the Syrian line, noted about a month ago the special Syrian preparations to keep its soldiers in the posts. The soldiers were given warm clothes and blankets; but it seems that this was not enough, and the Syrians decided to evacuate the soldiers.

In the Lebanese mountains, in places where IDF soldiers are stationed as well, it is very cold and snow has begun falling. As in any other year, the IDF is preparing to prevent disasters caused by the cold, and IDF soldiers stationed in the cold areas go through special courses enabling them to deal with the cold and snow. The winter posts at the front were supplied with color television sets and video recorders in order to allow the soldiers "to pass the time on cold days when there is little active duty."

Military sources in Lebanon think that the relative quiet prevailing in Al-Biqa' in the last few weeks is a result of the Syrian fear of Israeli retaliatory actions. According to those sources, the Syrians prefer to focus their fight against Israel in areas where it is difficult to tell who initiated the incident, terrorists or Syrians. The IDF is closely following what is happening in the Syrian sector, and the Syrians are reminded occasionally that they are the ones responsible for terrorist actions originating in their area.

Evacuation of Phalangists From Dayr al-Qamar Begins

TA151016 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] A short while ago about 100 IDF trucks arrived in Dayr al-Qamar in order to evacuate some 2,000 Phalangists. Our military correspondent, Shmu'el Tal, reports that the Phalangists are also taking with them heavy weapons, APC's, and other vehicles. The evacuation is proceeding in an orderly and quiet manner.

Earlier the evacuation of civilians from the town began. The first refugees boarded 13 buses and are now on their way to the small town of Jazzin in southern Lebanon, travelling under the protection of the International Red Cross. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the convoy is passing through Druze villages

in the Ash-Shuf mountains and many of the villagers are lining the roads to watch it go by. The IDF is guarding the evacuation route. About 500 civilians will be leaving Dayr al-Qamar today.

IDF Statement on Evacuation

TA151045 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1017 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] We now have the IDF spokesman's statement on the evacuation of the besieged rufugees in Dayr al-Qamar, which is as follows:

The IDF spokesman announces that, with the help and planning of the IDF, an operation is now beginning, due to extend over a number of days, aimed at assisting in the rescue of displaced persons and members of the Lebanese and Christian forces who have for some 3 months been under siege by the Druze in the Christian town of Dayr al-Qamar.

In response to Israeli contacts with them and in compliance with Israel's suggestion, it will be recalled that the Druze leaders a few days ago announced the lifting of the Druze siege on the town. Following this statement, and in continuous consultation with the United States, and after obtaining the request, consent, and blessings of the Lebanese Government and all sides involved in this matter, including the Lebanese Forces, the leaders of the Christian community in Lebanon, the leadership of the Druze community in Lebanon, and the International Red Cross, the operation was planned by the IDF.

The difficult winter conditions now prevailing in Dayr al-Qamar and the approaching Christmas season added to the urgency of its implementation.

To begin with, the Lebanese Government will station several hundred members of the Lebanese gendarmerie there, who will ensure the safety of the town's inhabitants. Concurrently, soldiers of the Lebanese Forces will be evacuated from there, and the evacuation of the Christian refugees will begin, In accordance with the plan, the IDF will help in guarding the roads, transporting the evacuated Lebanese Forces, and assisting in safeguarding the well-being of the evacuated refugees, who will be transported by the International Red Cross. The operation is being carried out in coordination with the Lebanese Army, the Druze, the Lebanese Forces, and the International Red Cross.

Dayr al-Qamar, Dialogue With Lebanese Linked

TA150759 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 15 Dec 83 p 1

[Report by 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Excerpt] Israeli aid in arranging the evacuation of the Christians in The Christian town of Dayr al-Qamar has been extended, inter alia, in an attempt to create a renewed dialogue with President al-Jumayyil's administration.

Yesterday a senior security source said that Israel is helping in the matter of Dayr al-Qamar for humanitarian reasons and out of a desire to reiterate its support for Al-Jumayyil's regime and the Christian Phalange. This is being done with the encouragement of the United States which had received many appeals on this matter from the Lebanese president. The United States had advised Israel to work on behalf of the people besieged in Dayr al-Qamar because, in the view of observers, this could improve the chances of Lebanon taking further steps on theratification of the agreement with Israel.

Yesterday security sources emphasized the success of the Israeli contacts with Druze leaders in Lebanon, contacts that had made the rescue of the besieged people possible. In contrast to the approach prevalent during Sharon's era, Minister Arens's approach is based on fostering relations with all the sects in Lebanon. The government made a decision to actively support the Dayr al-Qamar evacuation, in accordance with a proposal by Arens and Shamir.

Political sources in Jerusalem stressed yesterday that the Israeli involvement in the evacuation could be interpreted as an additional attempt to intervene in Lebanese domestic affairs in areas the IDF has already left.

Arens Comments on Lebanon, Jordan's Husayn

TA141133 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens said today that the only way to create alternative ways of policing southern Lebanon is through the central administration in Beirut. However, he expressed doubts as to whether this could be done at present. Minister Arens also said that Husayn could not be expected to join the peace process in the near future.

[Begin Arens recording] We have waited for 35 years. It is my impression that he is not coming, not next week and not next month, either, and not because things we have or have not done. [end recording]

Further on Lebanon, Syria

TA141554 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] When will the IDF leave Lebanon? Defense Minister Moshe Arens said today in the Knesset that the IDF will leave Lebanon the minute we feel sure that terrorism will not return upon our departure. Arens said this in answer to a motion to the agenda tabled by MK Amnon Rubinstein from Shinuy. Our correspondent Gil'ad Mishori conveys the defense minister's remarks:

[Begin Arens recording] For some reason, memory here is so short that people forget the fact that before the Peace for Galilee operation, the Syrians controlled Lebanon; and the Lebanese Government in Beirut was a Syrian puppet government. The Syrian campaign today — and we try to explain this to the Americans — is not on how to avoid leaving but on how to regain the positions they lost. And I think that if we win this campaign, and this is a continuous campaign — problems are not solved here

in one blow, and you know that — if we succeed in this continuing campaign, I hope that the Syrians will not be able to regain the positions they lost as a result of the Peace for Galilee operation. [end recording]

Arens on Lavi Manufacture

TA141048 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Most of the Lavi plane is to be manufactured in Israel and only some of the development work will be done abroad, because of budgetary and timetable considerations. This was said in the Knesset by the defense minister in reply to a question. He stressed that modern U.S. know-how should be taken advantage of and there is no justification for doing all the development work in Israel. However, in Minister Arens' opinion, the construction of the Lavi will help the aircraft industry.

Comments on Tulkarm Shooting

TA141435 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] The investigation conducted by the border police regarding the killing of two Tulkarm youths indicates that the border policemen who fired at the demonstrators acted according to instructions. This was stated by the defense minister in answer to a motion to the agenda submitted by HADASH MK Me'ir Wilner.

Earlier, Minister Arens had explained he hesitated for some time before he approved the demolition of houses in the territories. According to Arens, the number of disturbances in Judaea and Samaria has increased to a great extent, and it is difficult to maintain law and order. He noted that the Defense Ministry is examining the policy of demolishing houses.

More on West Bank

TA141705 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Moshe Arens said today in the Knesset that he hesitated a long time before authorizing the demolition of terrorists' houses. Arens revealed that the defense system tries to find suitable punishment that will deter people and also be compatible with the norms according to which we would like to act. The defense minister answered five motions to the agenda in the Knesset which dealt with the situation in Judaea and Samaria. Our correspondent Sha'ul Stav reports from the Knesset:

[Begin recording] [Stav] Minister Arens said that the Arab population's human rights in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip is much better than those in any other Arab country. However, he said, this is not enough. Despite the continuous problems of disorder in the territories, the security system tries to find punishment suitable to our norms as well. Minister Arens also dealt with the question of demolishing houses.

[Arens] I can tell you that the subject is being investigated. And when I have given permission for this in rare cases, I gave it only after great hesitation. I can tell you that we — you as well, not just me as defense minister — have a problem in keeping law and order in Judaea and Samaria. And we have a great number of disturbances. I am not telling you anything new when I say that this tradition of enforcing the law and adhering to the law, which exists in Israel, does not exist there. It did not exist during Husayn's rule, and it does not exist now. And we certainly have a problem finding a punishment that deters people, that will help us enforce the law, that will help us bring about the kind of order which Arab residents of the area want no less than Jewish residents. And we try to find different punishments which are suitable to our norms. [end recording]

Shamir on Joint Israeli-U.S.-Lebanese Policy

TA141720 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] This evening, the prime minister again said that only a joint policy by Israel, the United States, and Lebanon will change Syria's behaviour and convince it that it had better not overtake Lebanon. Yitzhaq Shamir spoke this evening with a few U.S. notables.

Levi Denies Remarks Reported in LE MONDE

TA141744 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Report by Rafi Matar from the Elysee Palace in Paris — live, on the telephone]

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister David Levi arrived at the Elysee Palace a few minutes ago for a meeting with French President Francois Mitterrand. A short while before he arrived, the ceremony of erecting the presidential cedar tree for Christmas took place here. The deputy prime minister denied the remarks attributed to him by the *LE MONDE* correspondent in Geneva. According to Levi, it is insolent to ask for Israel's consent to the exit of the PLO leader and his fighters. Ironically, he asked whether Israel should not also be asked to prepare an honor guard for the terrorists and their leader. He emphasized that Israel does not give any information about its intentions, and that Israel reserves all options to itself.

Levi on Mitterrand Talks

TA142107 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] French President Francois Mitterrand is not pressuring Israel regarding the evacuation of 'Arafat and his people from Tripoli. This was stated by Deputy Prime Minister David Levi at the end of his talk with President Mitterrand. Our correspondent in Paris notes that the talk lasted 30 minutes longer than the time originally scheduled for it. David Levi said that the French president denounced Yasir 'Arafat for not denying his organization's responsibility for the terrorist act against the Jerusalem bus. The deputy prime minister says he found in President Mitterrand a true friend who understands Israel's problems.

'Terrorist' Casualties in Naval Shelling Cited

TA141243 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 14 Dec 83 pp 1, 11

[Report by Yosef Walter, Ilan Kfir, Shefi Gabay, and Ya'aqov Erez]

[Excerpt] Dozens of terrorists — supporters and opponents of Yasir 'Arafat — were hit yesterday in the heavy Israeli naval bombardments of PLO targets in Tripoli. The two factions returned fire by means of heavy guns and missiles at the three naval craft participating in the attack, Beirut radio stations reported this morning.

Terrorists belonging to the pro-'Arafat faction who were hit were rushed to the Islamic Hospital in Tripoli, while the members of the PLO dissident faction who were injured in the shelling were taken to hospitals located behind the Syrian lines.

Eyewitnesses recounted that the Israeli hits were accurate, falling on numerous terrorist targets which caught fire; explosions in the area continued for several hours. The targets hit included weapons and ammunitions stores, food depots, gun emplacements, and Katyusha launchers, as well as improvised tent camps housing the terrorists. The radio stations report that installations in Tripoli harbor were also hit.

IDF missiles and shells also fell in the port area, near the quarter where 'Arafat's headquarters are located, and fires broke out in that area. Electricity in Tripoli was cut off after having only recently been repaired in the wake of the inter-PLO fighting.

Security sources in Israel stated last night that the Israeli naval operation yesterday afternoon, attacking 'Arafat's followers south of Tripoli, was a link in the chain of operations being carried out by the IDF in response to attacks on IDF forces in Lebanon and military objectives inside Israel.

These sources again pointed out that 'Arafat had assumed responsibility for the attack on a Jerusalem bus, and that the IDF had reacted, and would continue to react how, where, and when it deemed proper.

For the second time this week, Israeli naval craft shelled terrorist positions and roadblocks along the Lebanese coastal road south of Tripoli. 'Arafat's followers are still digging in in many of the buildings in the old quarter on the southern outskirts of the town, and are equipped with small arms, RPG launchers, machineguns, antiaircraft guns, and artillery.

The aim of yesterday's action was to make it clear to the terrorists once again that the Navy's boats control the sector — which has only added to the fears and uncertainties of the terrorists regarding Israel's intentions regarding the evacuation from Tripoli.

While time is passing the Syrians and the PLO rebels are stepping up their pressure on 'Arafat to leave town.

'Arafat and his men gaze out to sea in trepidation and are unable to dispell the fog shrouding Israel's intentions. Israel for its part is keeping silent, and the odd hint elicited here and there only serves to fuel their anxiety.

At 2000 last night naval craft again shelled a terrorist position in Tripoli. Here, too, the ships reported accurate hits on their targets.

Worsening Relations With Egypt Concern Government

TA141231 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 14 Dec 83 pp 1, 11

[Report by Yosef Harif]

[Text] Jerusalem is seriously worried by the continuing deterioration in relations with Egypt, in light of Cairo's tough stance and the anti-Israeli statement by Egyptian Government figures, which have increased in the past few days.

Israel may appeal to the United States, as a partner to the Camp David accords and guarantor of the peace treaty with Egypt, and ask it to take urgent action in order to thaw the dangerous freeze in Egyptian-Israeli relations.

Anxiety over this deterioration increased this week following a grave report reaching Jerusalem from Israel's ambassador in Cairo, Moshe Sason. The ambassador believes that relations with Egypt have reached a dangerous crossroads and that vigorous action is called for.

The state of relations between Egypt and Israel was also discussed in talks held by Prime Minister Shamir and Defense Minister Arens with administration leaders in Washington, but the situation has apparently deteriorated since then. The exacerbation is reflected in statements made by Egyptian leaders on what is termed the "political-strategic cooperation agreement" between the United States and Israel.

Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, who called the agreement a "disaster", stated that it would prove an obstacle on the road to peace, and would anger the moderate countries in the Middle East. Mubarak thus set the tone for an offensive launched against Israel and the United States by the Egyptian media which are known to be influenced by the government.

The Egyptian prime minister was quoted as saying that the agreement between Israel and the United States could be a new obstacle to a comprehensive peace agreement and intensify polarization in the region.

It has been learned that U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz made it clear to Egypt's Usamah al-Baz that the understanding achieved with Israel would in no way influence U.S. efforts to resolve the Middle East issue and the Palestinian problem. However, these statements did not reassure the Egyptians, even though the U.S. Administration reiterated its adherence to the Reagan plan.

Political observers in Jerusalem consider the attack launched by the Egyptian press on the agreement to be a calculated move by the government there to freeze relations with Israel, as well as an excuse for not returning the Egyptian ambassador to Tel Aviv.

Egypt was pressured on this point by the United States and Secretary Shultz. An explicit Egyptian promise was made to the effect that its ambassador would be returned once Israel signed an agreement with Lebanon to withdraw the troops.

However, Egypt did not keep its word. U.S. envoy Philip Habib was told by Egyptian leaders that they supported the agreement signed with U.S. mediation. But after this was achieved on 17 May this year, Egypt did not back up the United States on this matter. Therefore the United States also believes that it has been misled by Cairo.

The urgent cable on this issue, dispatched by Ambassador Sason, which was aimed at advising policymakers in Jerusalem of the grave situation, also includes a number of examples which bring home the dangerous deterioration that has set in in relations with Egypt and in the latter's attitude toward the peace treaty with Israel. As stated, the matter will be the subject of urgent discussions between Jerusalem and Washington within the next days.

U.S. Consulate in East Jerusalem Criticized

TA141246 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 14 Dec 83 p 4

[Report by Washington correspondent 'Oded Granot]

[Text] Israel's displeasure over the activity and modus operandi of the U.S. Consulate in East Jerusalem was raised yesterday by the coordinator of activities in the territories, Brigadier General Binyamin Ben-Eli'ezer, in talks conducted by him with senior administration officials in Washington. At the end of the week he is scheduled to meet with Secretary of State Schultz, who is showing interest in the situation of the residents of the territories.

During Prime Minister Shamir's visit to the United States it was suggested that the coordinator of activities in the territories discuss ways to improve the quality of life in the territories with administration officials. The United States believes that this kind of activity could encourage moderate Palestinians to join the political process. U.S. officials reacted extremely sharply to Israel's contentions regarding the activities and functioning of the U.S. Consulate in East Jerusalem.

Soviets Cancel Participation in Conference

TA141249 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 14 Dec 83 p 12

[Unattributed report]

[Text] Two Soviet experts on the registration and legal application of patents, Prof (Mark Boguslawsky) and (Svyatoslav Filipov), who were to have arrived in Israel on December 15 to participate in a professional conference, have announced that they are cancelling their visit.

News of this cancellation was received here after most of the preparations for the conference had already been completed. The two had announced their visit some months ago, following meetings with the Israeli organizer, Dr Mikha'el Kohen, in the Soviet Union. The conference was to have been attended by Israelis and the two Soviet experts only.

Mediterranean Antipollution Treaty Approved

TA150748 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 15 Dec 83 p 3

[Report by Aharon Sittner]

[Text] Israel recently joined the Mediterranean Sea Anti-Pollution Treaty Organization, the last country in the region to do so.

With the Interior Ministry's Environmental Protection Service as its agent, the government has ratified the treaty, thus adding Israel's name to the organization's "Barcelona Convention."

The treaty organization's official protocol lays down a series of stiff rules barring or limiting the dumping of chemicals, sewerage and scrap metal junk into the Mediterranean.

In accordance with the Knesset's recently enacted Ocean Pollution Prevention Law, anybody in Israel violating the protocol is liable to a year's imprisonment or a fine of IS2 million.

Among the substances that may not be thrown into the Mediterra- nean from the Israeli shore — or from ships or aircraft in its territorial waters or air space — beginning January 1 are the following:

Mercury and cadmium, or their compounds.

Non-degradable plastics or other synthetic matter that could disturb fish breeding or navigation.

Crude oil and other carbons originating from sub-surface oil sources.

Radioactive substances.

Strong acid compounds.

All substances or materials - in any form - connected with the manufacture of chemical or biological warfare materials.

Newspapers Receive Information on Bomb Threats

TA141014 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 14 Dec 83 p 2

[Report by Robert Rosenberg]

[Text] Two anonymous telephone calls were made to newspapers yesterday by self-described spokesmen of the "Terror Against Terror" organization, taking credit for bombing attempts.

One case was a false alarm. In the other, it appears the caller has in the past taken responsibility, but without cause, for what appeared to be a case of Jewish terror. An anonymous telephone caller told *MA'ARIV* that "next in line are Yosi Sarid and Matityahu Peled." He referred to the grenade attempts on Mt Zion last week as the work of the same group that killed Emil Grunzweig with a hand grenade last February during a Peace Now demonstration.

Another telephone caller yesterday afternoon told the editor of *HAMODI'A the Agudat Yisra'el newspaper published in Jerusalem* to say that "Terror Against Terror" had put two bombs on Rehov Hashalshelet in the Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem. However, a massive search by police in the area described by the telephone caller turned up nothing.

The two telephone calls — and others to the media — are but a few compared to the hundreds that have been pouring into the police switchboard ever since the terror bombing of the bus in Jerusalem two weeks ago.

On an average day before the bombing, the police sappers were answering about eight to 10 calls per eight-hour shift on sightings of suspicious objects. In the past two weeks, they've had to handle an average of 25-30 calls a shift.

Many more calls than ever are coming in from East Jerusalem, ever since the Mt Zion and Beit Safafa grenades were found last week.

Meanwhile, police yesterday confirmed they have been comparing past crimes in which Jewish involvement was suspected, with the grenade attempts in Jerusalem and in Husan, a village west of Bethlehem.

Among the cases that are being studied are the 1980 bomb attacks on the West Bank Mayors, the attack on Grunzweig, and the arson of the Baptist Church in Jerusalem last year.

However, police were quick to explain that these are routine comparisons which are part of the search for similarities in the methods of operation.

In none of the above mentioned cases have the police managed to bring suspects to trial.

Briefs

Immigration Data — During the first 11 months of 1983, 10,500 immigrants arrived in Israel from the West, in comparison with 8,000 who came during the same period in 1982. In contrast, immigration from the East decreased: Only 166 immigrants came from Romania this month, 30 percent fewer than last year. Also, only 57 Jews left the Soviet Union this month; this is the smallest number of Jews to have ever emigrated from this country in recent years. Of these 57 Soviet Jews, only 26 have come to Israel. [Text] [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 14 Dec 83 TA]

African Development Fund Meeting Opens
AB131300 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 13 Dec 83 p 3

[Text] The possibilty of increasing financial capabilities will be the major topic of discussion in the first consultative meeting for the fourth reconstitution of the resources of the African Development Fund [ADF], an affiliate of the African Development Bank [ADB]. The meeting, which opened yesterday at the headquarters of the pan-African financial institution, is scheduled to end this afternoon.

The resources of the ADF, which was created in 1972, are used to finance interest-bearing loans at mild terms. These loans are generally repayable in 50 years, with a 10-year grace period. Roughly 80 percent of these resources is reserved for the poorest African countries, those with a per capita income of less than $400, that is, 156,000 CFA francs. These 29 countries represent 56 percent of the continent's population. Fifteen percent of the same fund is reserved for those countries with a per capita income of between $400 and $780, that is, between 156,000 and 312,000 CFA francs.

Concerning the distribution by sector, 36 percent of the resources is devoted to agriculture, 25 percent to transportation, 17 percent to capital equipment, 7 percent to health and education, and 5 percent to industrial and development banks.

The fund's total commitments amounted to $1.57 billion at the end of September 1983. The fund has already been reconstituted three times. The first reconstitution, amounting to $274.34 million or 114.86 billion CFA francs, covered the period 1976-78. The second reconstitution, amounting to $617.1 million or 151.94 billion CFA francs, covered the period 1979-81, while the third, amounting to $1 billion or about 389 billion CFA francs, covers the period 1982-84.

The fund's initial resources totalled 67.68 billion CFA francs. A special increase of 17.7 billion CFA francs was made later.

It must be noted that both the ADF and the Special Nigerian Fund are affiliates of the ADB that grant loans at favorable conditions.

This meeting, which will be devoted exclusively to the prospects of increasing the fund's resources, is being attended by representatives of the ADB and of the 25 countries contributing to the ADF.

Congo Signs Convention Establishing PANA
AB141740 Dakar PANA in English 1735 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Dakar, 14 Dec (PANA) — The Republic of Congo today in Dakar signed the convention establishing the PAN AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY (PANA).

The Congolese minister of information and telecommunications, Mr Daniel Abibin, who signed the convention on behalf of his country gave assurance that his country would give full support to PANA in its efforts to accomplish its task.

The Congolese minister was accompanied by the Senegalese counterpart, Mr Djibo Ka.

The director general of PANA thanked Congo and Senegal for their support for the agency. He announced that PANA was establishing its transmissions at 10 hours (10 hrs to 18 hrs GMT) and 15,000 words daily.

ALGERIA

Mauritania's Haydala Departs 14 December

LD141414 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Excerpts] President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the CMSN and president of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, left Algeria this morning at the end of his friendly working visit to our country. The Mauritanian president was seen off by President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and party secretary general, and other officials.

MOROCCO

Al-Jumayyil To Make 'Brief, Unannounced' Visit

LD141902 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1824 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Rabat, 14 Dec (KUNA) — KUNA has learned that Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil will arrive here tomorrow on a brief, unannounced visit.

President al-Jumayyil, who is currently in London, will conduct talks with the Moroccan monarch, King Hassan II, on the situation in Lebanon and the Middle East.

Boucetta Leaves With Hassan Message for Fahd

LD142357 Rabat MAP in English 1530 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Casablanca, 14 Dec (MAP) — Moroccan Minister of State M'hamed Boucetta left Casablanca's King Mohamed V. International Airport today for Riyadh with a message from King Hassan II for the Saudi monarch, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

Later he will visit a number of Gulf countries on similar missions.

TUNISIA

Algerians Arrive for Treaty Signing Ceremony

LD141451 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Algerian Prime Minister Mr Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani arrived in Tunis at 1120, accompanied by Mr Hadj Yala, member of the Political Bureau and minister of the interior. He was welcomed by Messrs Mohamed Mzali, (Mongi Kooli), and Driss Guiga.

At the White Room in the Palace of the Republic in Carthage, President Habib Bourguiba received Mauritanian President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala and the Algerian prime minister, Mr Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, in the presence of Mr Mohamed Mzali.

The supreme combatant presided over a ceremony during which the protocol marking Mauritania's accession to the Treaty of Fraternity and Accord was signed. President Bourguiba and President Ould Haydala signed the protocol concerning Mauritania's accession to the Treaty of Fraternity and Accord, which had already been signed by Tunisia and Algeria on 19 March. The ceremony was also attended by Messrs Mohamed Mzali and Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani. After the signing, documents were exchanged relating to the tripartite agreement.

President Habib Bourguiba then invited his guests to lunch.

Mauritanian, Algerian Presidents Depart

LD141954 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Mauritanian President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala left Tunis for Nouakchott this evening after having signed the agreement through which Mauritania joined the Tunisian-Algerian Treaty of Fraternity and Accord.

The Mauritanian president was seen off at Carthage Airport by Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali and several members of the government and the Political Bureau.

Algerian Prime Minister Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani left Tunis this afternoon to return to Algeria. He was seen off at Tunis-Carthage Airport by Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali and several members of the government.

CHAD

Bardai Radio Stresses OAU Role in Peace Efforts

AB141255 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] While hailing and encouraging the good will being demonstrated by various persons [concerning the solution of the Chadian conflict], we agree with the comrade head of state that the various diplomatic initiatives should be taken under the auspices of the OAU. Faced with natural calamities to which has been added the suffering caused by a devastating war, the Chadian people — who desire peace and freedom like any other people — are now being terrorized and ridiculed by the forces of an adventurous clique who want to subject them to the diktat of international imperialism.

A return of peace is our people's only hope and salvation. This means that national reconciliation is not a mere word. At least something must be given to this people, who are not only experiencing a considerable backwardness in the economic and social fields, but who have also lost their [words indistinct]. This is why the Transitional National Union Government accords great importance to the return of peace in Chad. The aggravation and internationalization of the conflict were caused by the presence of French, American, and Zairian troops. Finding itself out of breath, the FAN appealed for and obtained their massive intervention. It was because of this escalation that the Vittel French-African summit conference unanimously agreed on the opening of negotiations between all the parties involved in the conflict. This was in order to avoid a conflagration with incalculable consequences and reconcile the Chadians. [Passage indistinct]

It is obvious that the OAU [words indistinct] wanted to postpone indefinitely the mission of the African buffer force in Chad and that it suspended the examination of the Chadian affair in order to get rid of it. But the realities still exist and facts are obstinate. The OAU is again confronted by the same thorny problem. This is an opportunity for the continental organization to correct the mistakes due to the calculations of imperialist computers.

CONGO

GUNT's Goukouni Meets With President, Comments

AB142220 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] President Denis Sassou-Nguesso today received Goukouni Oueddei, president of the Transitional National Union Government of Chad [GUNT]. After his talks with President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, Goukouni Oueddei answered questions from our reporter. [Passage indistinct]

[Begin recording] [Goukouni] [Words indistinct] I came to the Congo in order to explain developments in the situation prevailing in our country to President Sassou-Nguesso, and at the same time to thank the president of the Congolese Labor Party, the government, and people of Congo for the role they have played in the Chadian people's struggle under the leadership of the GUNT. This, in short, is the aim of my visit here and the aim of our talks this evening.

[Question by unidentified reporter] The roundtable conference on Chad scheduled to take place in Addis Ababa on 21 December 1983 has been postponed until 9 January 1984. What is the GUNT's view on this postponement, and what will be the GUNT's stand during this conference?

[Goukouni] Concerning the Addis Ababa meeting, we have already met an OAU delegation, that is, the Ethiopian foreign minister and the acting secretary general of the OAU, Peter Onu. This is our position: Since the GUNT is the legitimate government of the Chadian people, recognized by the Chadian people since the 1979 Lagos Accord, supported by the 17th OAU summit in Monrovia, and reaffirmed by the OAU summit in Nairobi, we consider the GUNT the legitimate government of the Chadian people. As far as we are concerned, Hissein Habre, who has imposed himself in our capital and who is a signatory to the Lagos Accord, is a rebel to the GUNT. We, therefore, do not consider Hissein Habre's regime to be a government in Ndjamena.

On this subject, we have asked the current chairman of the OAU to facilitate a meeting between us and the FAN so that a just and lasting solution can be found to the Chadian tragedy and so that the Chadian people, who are now spread throughout the world, can be brought back to their own country. We have agreed to negotiate with the FAN either as signatories to the Lagos Accord or in our capacities as GUNT and FAN. That is why we were recently invited by the current chairman of the OAU as signatories to the Lagos Accord. Thus all the faction leaders who were signatories to the Lagos Accord received their invitation to be in Addis Ababa not later than 8 January 1984. Hissein Habre also was invited in the same way we were. [end recording]

ZAIRE

PANA: France Grants Funds for Medical Research

AB141216 Dakar PANA in French 1030 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Kinshasa, 14 Dec (AZAP/PANA) — Within the framework of the 1984 budget of the French Department of Cooperation, France has just granted to Zaire a sum of 8 million francs for equipment for the National Institute for Biomedical Research (INRB), an official source in the Zairian Health Ministry announced on Monday.

The granting of this aid was disclosed by Mr Lechiguero, the new head of the French cooperation mission, to Zairian Health Minister Tshibasu Mybiayi during a recent discussion.

The INRB, whose new buildings are almost completed, was set up with the cooperation of the Pasteur Institute. It comprises a national public health laboratory and a virology unit.

GHANA

Ban on Sunday Sale of Petroleum Products Lifted

AB141830 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] The Ministry of Fuel and Power has with immediate effect lifted the ban on the sale of petroleum products on Sundays. Like all other days, filling stations will now open to the motoring public on Sundays from 0600 to 1800. The ministry said it has taken this decision to minimize the effects of the current electricity power out exercise on fuel supply to motorists.

IVORY COAST

ROK Communications Minister Arrives for Visit

AB141330 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 14 Dec 83 p 32

[Text] Kim Song-chin, South Korean minister of communications, arrived in Abidjan on Sunday evening bearing a message from the South Korean leader to President Houphouet-Boigny.

Mr Kim was met on arrival at the airport by his Ivorian counterpart, Ange-Francois Barry-Battesti, minister of construction, public works, transport, and posts and telecommunications. He reported that he had been assigned the task of delivering a personal message from the South Korean president to President Houphouet.

"Our president," Mr Kim said, "has much esteem and admiration for the Ivorian president, the oldest African head of state and a very wise man as well." The South Korean minister added that his country and the Ivory Coast are linked by very deep relations of friendship. These must be strengthened and oriented toward concrete objectives.

Mr Kim met Simeon Ake, minister of foreign affairs, on Monday, and was received yesterday by Mr Barry-Battesti and Governor Guy Nairay, permanent under secretary at the president's office. He expressed the wish and the hope to meet with other Ivorians during his stay to discuss ways and means of developing relations between South Korea and the Ivory Coast.

Mr Kim, who is accompanied by four of his countrymen, is on his first visit to the Ivory Coast. He leaves Abidjan tomorrow.

LIBERIA

PRC Agrees To Return to Civilian Rule in 1985

AB141052 Dakar PANA in English 1014 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Monrovia, 14 Dec (LINA/PANA) — Liberia's head of state, Samuel Kanyon Doe, has assured Liberians that the November attempted coup plot against him will not retard the constitutional process his government is committed to achieve.

In a two-page news release issued in Monrovia on Monday, Commander-in-Chief Doe said that members of the People's Redemption Council (PRC) had unanimously agreed to return the country to civilian rule in 1985. He asserted that the PRC, which is currently debating the draft constitution, is expected to complete its deliberations shortly and would submit the document to the Liberian people for a referendum.

Mr Doe referred to the attempted coup as a "deliberate attempt" to distract attention from the serious efforts his government was making to create a conducive climate for the socio-economic development of Liberia. He said he was surprised the former deputy chairman of the dissolved Constitution Commission, Mr D.K. Wonseleay, could participate in acts contrary to returning the country to civilian rule.

Mr Wonseleay was arrested on Saturday, 10 December, after he was named by Major Kalongo Luo, one of the accused, in the alleged plot. Mr Luo had said that Mr Wonseleay prepared a speech which would have been read by Mr Thomas G. Quiwonkpa on radio if the coup had succeded.

Mr Doe has given further assurance that his government would take measures to protect foreign investments and improve the general situation in the country. He called on foreign investors in the country to remain calm and committed to the economic survival of Liberia, and urged Liberians to remain united against those "evil forces designed to create unrest and instability in the country."

NIGERIA

Asiodu on Increased Oil Quota, Development

AB141610 Lagos NAN in English 1600 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Lagos, Dec 14 (NAN) — Nigeria will persuade its OPEC partners to increase its crude oil production quota, the presidential adviser on economic affairs, Mr Philip Asiodu, said in Lagos last night. Mr Asiodu made this known while answering questions during a public service lecture he delivered on reviving the economy. He, however, said that the nation should desist from ascribing its economic troubles to the oil glut.

Mr Asiodu said that the present Nigerian predicament arose from the systematic abandonment of projects in the national development plans. The results of the third and fourth development plans so far have been disappointing, he said. He stated that foreign reserves had been wasted on infrastructural construction projects at the expense of self-financing industrial projects like petrochemical, [word indistinct], fertiliser production, as well as iron and steel.

Mr Asiodu said that the government's new policy was to encourage the privatisation of food production for better yields, because it had become obvious that the civil service or government bodies could not grow food cheaply and abundantly. The expectation of private reward, he said, was often the spur for successful industrial development.

The presidential adviser also supported the privatisation of parastatals, with the exception of NEPA [National Electric Power Authority].

Senate, House Committees on Defense Inaugurated

AB150847 Lagos NAN in English 0822 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] Lagos, Dec 14 (NAN) — The Senate and the House of Representatives committees on defense were today in Lagos separately inaugurated with a pledge by the Ministry of Defense and service chiefs to meet the country's security obligations.

The permanent secretary in the ministry, Alhaji Aminu Saleh; the chief of defense staff, Lt Gen G.S. Jalo; the chief of army staff, Air Vice-Marshal A.D. Bello; and Rear Admiral D.E. Okujagu representing the navy promised to cooperate with the committees in defending the country.

Rear Admiral Okujagu complained that members of the National Assembly had not visited naval commands since 1979 and expressed the hope that the legislators would familiarize themselves with naval operations, particularly against smuggling.

Answering a question, Alhaji Aminu said that the country's policy was not to start a war, but to find ways of solving border skirmishes amicably. He explained that some islands on the Cameroon-Nigeria border were usually drifting from their natural positions thereby resulting in disputes among fishermen from the two countries. He said that the ministry's demand for adequate funds would be reasonable in view of the country's economy, and added that the Armed Forces were one of the best in the world.

Earlier, the chairman of the House committee, Rep Isa Rilwanu, directed the ministry to furnish the committee with details about the welfare of men in the armed forces before President Shehu Shagari presented the 1984 budget on 24 December. He said the committee would ensure that the country could boast of contented, disciplined and well-equipped armed forces.

The Senate committee is headed by Sen Abubakar Dabai, NPN [National Party of Nigeria] Sokoto.

Community in Oyo Separates From Ile-Ife

AB150830 Lagos NAN in English 0805 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Ibadan, 14 Dec (NAN) — A bill carving out Modakeke out of the present Oranmiyan central local government in Oyo State was unanimously passed today by the state assembly without debate, thus ending years of demands by the Modakeke community to have a local government headquarters (?distinct) from Ile-Ife.

In his letter to the speaker of the house, Oyeladun Oyemade, Governor Omololu Olunloyo said that the bill was prepared in conformity with the provisions of section seven of the constitution, adding that due regard had been given to the common interest and traditional association of the communities in the area for administrative convenience.

Governor Olunloyo said that the government had entrenched in the instrument creating the new local government council safeguards and guarantees designed to ensure permanent and lasting peace between the two rival communities of Ife and Modakeke.

The NAN correspondent at the house reported that the relevant standing order stipulating debate before bill passage had been suspended by a motion brought by the majority leader, Aderoju Alawode, NPN [National Party of Nigeria] Ibarapa III. The bill also sought the creation of another local government council, Oranmiyan Northwest, with Ipetumodu as the headquarters.

There was pandemonium which lasted for 15 minutes when members of the house and assembly correspondents were subjected to a vigorous check by the combined team of police, NSO [National Security Organization] and the house security men.

The chairman of the house committee on security and protocol, Alhaji Oyebisi Amusa, NPN, Ede South II, told assembly correspondents in an interview after house procedures that the vigorous check was routine. However, the check might not be unconnected with the bringing of the bill for the creation of a local government council for the people of Modakeke to the house.

TOGO

French Presidential Adviser Departs 14 December

AB150817 Lome Domestic Service in French 0615 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] Jean-Christophe Mitterrand, assistant adviser to French President Mitterrand for African affairs, left Lome yesterday afternoon after spending more than 3 days in our capital. He was seen off at the airport by Gbegnow Amegbor, minister delegate to the presidency of the republic in charge of information, posts, and telecommunications, and by His Excellency Michel Chatelet, French ambassador to Togo.

During his stay in Lome, Mr Mitterrand held two rounds of talks with President Gnassingbe Eyadema. They took the opportunity to examine recent developments in Africa, with particular emphasis on the situation in Chad, Namibia, and Western Sahara. They also reviewed French-Togolese cooperation and other aspects of bilateral relations.

ANGOLA

Nigeria's Audu Delivers Message to Dos Santos

MB140749 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] At the Futungo de Belas in Luanda yesterday afternoon Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the president of the People's Republic of Angola, received a personal message from Shehu Shagari, the Nigerian president. The message, whose contents were not revealed, was delivered by Ishaya Audu, the Nigerian foreign minister, as the special envoy of President Shehu Shagari. Present at the ceremony was Comrade Venancio de Moura, the Angolan deputy foreign minister.

Denies Multinational Force Proposal

MB150630 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Ishaya Audu, Nigeria's external affairs minister, today denied that his country had proposed the replacement of Cuban troops in Angola with a multinational force. He said: Nigeria has not made any proposal for the replacement of Cuban troops in Angola by others from a multinational force. Nigeria shares the opinion that the People's Republic of Angola must defend its security and territorial integrity. The aim of my visit is to express Nigeria's solidarity with the Angolan people and government. This was stated by the Nigerian minister soon before he returned home.

The Nigerian official also indicated that his country believes that Angola can do whatever is within its power in order to defend its national sovereignty and territorial integrity. Asked about the talks he had held with Angolan authorities, Ishaya Audu said that his visit has contributed to the strengthening of the relations between Nigeria and Angola. He expressed his satisfaction with the talks he held with Angolan authorities.

It should be pointed out that the Nigerian external affairs minister arrived in Luanda yesterday carrying a personal message from President Shehu Shagari to Angolan head of state Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos. Meanwhile, President Shehu Shagari has been quoted as saying that he opposes all attempts made by the United States to link the question of Namibia's independence with the withdrawal of the Cuban troops from Angola. In an interview given to *THE GUARDIAN* newspaper, the Nigerian president said that his country's stand is similar to that of the OAU and the frontline states and that the People's Republic of Angola is entitled to request help from any country.

Talks Held With Tanzanian Trade Delegation

MB140830 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Talks between an Angolan delegation and a delegation from the United Republic of Tanzania have been under way in Luanda since yesterday morning. Both the delegations are led by the ministers of foreign trade of the two countries; namely, Ismael Martins and Mustapha Nyang'anyi. The two delegations, which include senior officials connected with cooperation, economy, energy, and finance, will mainly deal with issues relating to cooperation between the two countries. During its stay in Angola, the delegation from the United Republic of Tanzania will visit various production centers and will also hold talks with a number of officials connected with economy, energy, and petroleum.

Refugee Conference Delegation Meets Officials

MB140930 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] The technical mission of the Second Conference for Refugees in Africa, which arrived in our country last Saturday, yesterday afternoon held talks with officials of the Ministry of Construction following morning meetings with officials from the Ministry of Education. The day before yesterday the delegation visited Uige Province after holding separate talks with senior officials of the State Secretariat for Cooperation and the Ministry of Agriculture in Luanda. In Uige the delegation of the Second Conference for Refugees in Africa visited the site where a professional training center for refugees will be built and discussed with (Manuel Quarta Punza), the provincial commissioner, issues relating to refugees in that province, including their needs, methods of assistance, and distribution of provisions.

BOTSWANA

Border Villagers Urged To Assist in Security

MB141556 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1125 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] The minister of public service and information, Mr Daniel Kwelagobe, has said that Botswana living along the border with Zimbabwe should always report to the police or the Botswana Defense Force [BDF] whenever they see unknown people in their villages. Addressing meetings at (Lentswele Morithi), (Semolale), (Mofifi), and (Matsholoje) this week, Mr Kwelagobe said that the government's endeavor to provide maximum security to the nation could not be successful without the cooperation and involvement of the citizens.

The minister told the people that the government was concerned about the recent incidents along their border with Zimbabwe. He disclosed that the BDF had increased their patrol along the border. He said, however, that this was not enough and reminded them that the Botswana-Zimbabwe border alone stretches over approximately 600 km and that the Army is still very small. Mr Kwelagobe expressed concern about those people living along the border who did not declare persons from across the border either to the police or to the Army. He said it was dangerous for people living along the border to hide unknown persons in their houses, as they could be haboring dissidents fighting the Government of Zimbabwe. He said while the Government of Botswana would continue to give asylum to genuine refugees, it would not accept those people who were fighting their governments back home.

LESOTHO

ANC Expresses Thanks for Massacre Commemoration

MB141255 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] The ANC of South Africa has expressed gratitude to the Lesotho Peace and Solidarity Committee for the arrangements which were made by the organization to commemorate the first anniversary of the Maseru massacre, in which innocent people were killed by South African soldiers. An emissary of the ANC yesterday afternoon visited the Central Committee of the Lesotho Peace and Solidarity Committee to inform it of the ANC's appreciation of the manner in which victims of the 9 December had been remembered.

In reply, the Central Committee of the Lesotho Peace and Solidarity Committe told the ANC emissary that the organization's program towards the observance of 9 December was its modest contribution which could not have succeeded without the cooperation of all concerned.

Maseru Compares Machel, Botha European Tours

MB140922 Maseru Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Recently the Mozambican president, Samora Machel, undertook an extensive tour of Europe, during which he held discussions with European heads of government and their foreign ministers. One of President Machel's primary tasks during that visit was to give Europe the other viewpoint on the southern African subcontinent. We say the other viewpoint because it seems that for a long time now the monopoly of informing Europe about the political direction of the subregion has been enjoyed by Pretoria. Not only has Pretoria wanted the events of this region to be seen within the framework of South African policies, but the entire South African propaganda machinery, both private and government, had fully supported Pretoria in ensuring this monopoly.

President Samora Machel's trip, therefore, managed to break this trend — hence, the frantic tour recently by the South African foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha, to Europe and his attempts to arrange a summit meeting between his prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, and President Machel. During his visit to Europe President Machel exploded the myth spread by South Africa abroad that independent southern African states are taking orders from Moscow and, therefore, threatened the bastion of Western civilization in the region. Machel exploded this myth by pointing out that the biggest danger to the future well-being of the subcontinent was apartheid and separate development, and until these policies are dismantled the subcontinent will forever be threatened.

At every European capital that he visited Pik Botha faced an accusing finger from the heads of government and foreign ministers because the other aspect of this region that President Machel exposed in Europe was the deliberate policy of destabilization pursued by South Africa in this area. After a meeting with the German foreign minister, Mr Genscher, Mr Botha himself was heard to admit in despair that the meeting had not contributed to an improvement of relations between Bonn and Pretoria. We gather reliably that in Bonn, Mr Botha tried to use the communist bogey, but he was told in no uncertain terms that any interest communism was taking in southern Africa was invited by apartheid. Something similar was said in London, Lisbon, and Rome.

The success of President Machel's visit to Europe can be judged by the (?failures) of the South African foreign minister's own trip to an area where explanations usually go unchallenged. President Machel emerged in the eyes of the Western capitals he visited as a formidable representative of the region and not the bad communist from the bush who was likely to appear in Buckingham Palace with an AK-47 strapped around his shoulder — as this indeed is the impression the South Africans would rather the world had of the esteemed Mozambican leader.

Significantly, one of the first leaders in the region to be briefed by President Machel on his European trip was the prime minister, Dr Leabua Jonathan. Could it be that their common diplomatic strategy and offensive are beginning to produce the necessary impact?

MADAGASCAR

Assembly President Confers With PRC Ambassador

MB131945 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 0430 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] The president of the People's National Assembly, Lucien Andrianarahinjaka, yesterday morning received the Chinese ambassador, His Excellency Dai Ping, who paid a courtesy call on him. The two statesmen reviewed the various fields of cooperation between the People's Republic of China and Madagascar, including the construction of the national highway linking Toamasina to the capital [words indistinct]. In the fields of production and the economy, the Chinese ambassador recalled the efforts made by the [words indistinct] enterprise to distribute the various types of agricultural equipment that are currently in Malagasy [word indistinct]. He stressed that the biggest contribution of the Chinese Government has been in the field of expanding and (?teaching) new production skills.

The president of the People's National Assembly said that Sino-Malagasy relations of cooperation play a very important role in the national life and expressed the hope that they will be expanded and strengthened for the benefit of the international socialist revolution. The Chinese ambassador, Mr Dai Ping, had earlier congratulated Mr Lucien Andrianarahinjaka on being the leader of the People's National Assembly and presented him with a book by the former Chinese premier, Zhou Enlai.

The second person received by the leader of the National Assembly was the (?Swiss) charge d'affaires to Madagascar, Mr (Louis du Fer). The two men exchanged views on the international and regional situations. At the meeting the parliamentary systems of

two countries were reviewed in general and, in particular, the participation of decentralized collective organs in the running of our system was discussed.

MOZAMBIQUE

National Resistance Communique Reports Operations

MB141900 (Clandestine) Voice of Mozambique National Resistance in Portuguese 1700 GMT 14 Dec 83

[War communique issued by the General Staff of the Mozambique National Resistance — place and date not given]

[Text] In Nampula Province our forces have destroyed the village communes of (Namiote) in Alto Ligonha, freeing all the residents of the area. They have also destroyed the (Borrane) village commune in Meconta and freed the civilians being held there and exploited by Frelimo. On 21 November our combatants sabotaged the telephone lines between Alto Molocue and Alto Ligonha in the (Cataco) area. The (Molumula) village commune was attacked by our forces and its party secretary was killed.

In Zambezia Province on 4 November we attacked the Machel soldiers' position in Morembe. A total of 12 enemies of the people were killed and the remainder fled to Morrumbala. We captured three AK-47 weapons, three MGG's, and a large quantity of ammunition. We also liberated the position being held by the criminals of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique [FPLM]. On 6 November our forces clashed with enemy soldiers in (Muxicola) and (Mitanda), and the enemy rats fled toward (Nhamalo). In a clash with the FPLM in (Nhamala) village on 11 November the enemy suffered two more deaths and retreated toward Gurue. On 17 November the enemy position at Maganja da Costa was attacked by our forces. Following another clash with Machel's enemy soldiers on 19 November 1983, the heroic fighters of the Mozambique National Resistance, [Renamo], captured another two AK-47 weapons and some other materiel in the area of (Muhame). On 19 November a tractor belonging to Emocha tea enterprise was ambushed and burned by our forces. A Scania vehicle was also ambushed and burned in (Muadzira), Gurue. In the action an enemy of the people was killed and his AK-47 weapon captured. On 22 November we attacked the (Namachica) enemy position in Mugleba. Machel's troops suffered three deaths and abandoned the position, fleeing toward Mugeba. We captured 2 AK-47's, 2 82-mm mortars, 20 AK-47 cartridges, a number of uniforms, and other materiel.

Crimes carried out by the enemy of the people in Zambezia Province: On 11 November in the (Macia) area the criminal Machel troops coming from Tacuane burned nine civilian houses. On 12 November 60-mm mortar shells and about 20 RPG-7 rockets were fired against innocent civilians in the (Maia) area in (?Ribaue) district by the criminal soldiers of the enemies of the people. A number of women from the areas of (Muatsua) were taken by Machel bandits from Mugeba and raped. In addition civilian houses were burned by Machel soldiers in the area of (Muleremba) on 9, 10, and 11 November.

In Tete Province on 8 November the glorious forces of Renamo sabotaged the railway line between the former town of Caldas Xavier and Moatize near (Catoi). On 9 November our fighters ambushed the Angonia-Moatize road in [words indistinct]. A military vehicle was destroyed. On 15 November the enemy position at (Tesura) was attacked. The Machel soldiers abandoned their barracks leaving behind a Star pistol, 2 AK-47's, 2 SKS's, 21 hand grenades, a large quantity of ammunition, and other materiel. The roads from (?Mecombezi) to Moatize and from Zobue to Angonia and Tete are under the control of our forces. The Chimoio-Tete road is also under our control. To reach Tete, Frelimo troops must first go to Zimbabwe. From there they can reach Tete via Changara. On 24 and 25 November we attacked the enemy position of (Kapala) in [words indistinct]. Military installations were destroyed and many enemies of the people were killed.

In Manica Province on 4 November the enemy position in (Jiringa) was attacked by our forces, which captured an amount of war materiel in the action. On 7 November an enemy column was ambushed between Dombe and (Chituisso). A quantity of materiel was abandoned by Machel's soldiers in their flight. On 10 November large quantities of war materiel were captured from the enemies of the people during a clash in the (Chibue) area. In Manica Province plans are under way for a new incursion by Zimbabwean troops in support of Frelimo soldiers in the (Maciane) area. On 26 November our forces once again cut the power supply to the city of Beira by sabotaging the power lines near Reveu. A total of five power pylons were destroyed. On 28 November Renamo forces sabotaged the Cahora Bassa power lines. Our forces still control the area where the action took place, thus preventing the Machel government from repairing the power lines.

Crimes by the enemy of the people: FPLM criminal agents have been in Zimbabwe where they are trying to persuade shopowners near the border with Espungabera to give poisoned food to Mozambique nationals who live in the region and often go to Zimbabwe to trade products.

Sofala Province: On 8 November 1983 our forces clashed with the enemy in the area near (Murra). The enemy fled, abandoning an assortment of equipment. On 9 November Renamo combatants attacked the Frelimo position at (Chigure) with artillery fire. On 11 November our forces attacked the enemy position at (Monte Nharari). The enemy fled and large quantities of materiel were captured. On 12 November Renamo forces clashed with the enemy in the (Espinha) area. An assortment of materiel was captured. On 13 November our forces clashed with the enemy at (Mucodja). The enemies of the people fled, abandoning an assortment of materiel. On 19 November our forces ambushed an enemy column between Chemba and Sena. The FPLM criminals retreated after suffering heavy casualties. The Beira-Malawi railway line, which links the Sofala capital to the north of the country, has become inoperative and is under our total control. A bridge over this railway line, situated between Inhaminga and Inhamitanga, was destroyed on 19 November 1983. On 11, 12, and 17 November our forces sabotaged the Beira-Malawi railway line between Muanza and Inhaminga. The telephone lines along the Beira-Malawi railway line were also cut by our forces on 21 November in an area between Marromeu and Inhaminga. On 21 November our forces sabotaged the Beira-Zimbabwe pipeline. The operation was carried out between Tica and

Lamego. On 26 November our glorious forces attacked the enemy at (Muchinga) and captured an assortment of materiel. On the same day our forces killed two enemies of the people and captured five during a clash at (Chioto). Our forces captured nine AK-47's, one RPD, one 83-mm mortar, and large quantities of ammunition. On 25 November the Frelimo position at Vila Machado was attacked with artillery fire. From 21-22 November 1983 our forces attacked the enemy troops stationed at (Bhambira). An assortment of military equipment was captured by our forces and a total of 16 members of the population were released. The equipment captured by our forces included 2 AK-47's, 2 RPG-7 shells, 6 82-mm mortar shells, 4 60-mm mortar shells, 13 belts for an RPD weapon, and 8 belts for an LMG.

Maputo and Gaza Provinces: In these provinces priority is given to the Maputo-Zimbabwe railway line. The Zimbabwe soldiers already regard the line as totally inoperative. The following operations have been carried out on that line over the past few days: A 26-freight-car train pulled by a diesel locomotive and traveling from Zimbabwe to Maputo was ambushed and destroyed at (Mabuabanze). The line has been cut north of Mabalane. A train was destroyed between Magude and Chokwe and a bridge on the Maputo-Zimbawe railway line was destroyed between Mapai and Combomune. On 1 November our combatants captured a B-10 cannon during a clash at (Dendela). One FPLM soldier was killed and large quantities of war materiel, including seven AK-47's, one RPG-7, one RPD, one PPSH, one pistol, and two Mauser's were captured.

SOUTH AFRICA

Umtata Reports Possibility of Summit With Angola

MB150730 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Government ministers from Angola and South Africa are in London for talks with British Foreign Office officials. There is intense speculation that their separate meetings could lead to a summit meeting on Namibia. Robin Gould reports:

[Gould] It could be merely coincidence that the Angolan and South African ministers are in London at the same time, but that is not how diplomatic sources see it because there have been hints that Angola's planning minister may ask Britain to pressure South Africa over Namibia, and this could pave the way for the early release of seven British mercenaries jailed in Angola in 1976. One of them is (Kevin Merchant), and his brother (Colin) says optimism has suddenly risen:

[Begin (Colin) recording] I do not know what they are wanting from Britain, but obviously if Britain can do anything for our boy, I am sure they will. [end recording]

There have been reports in London that a summit meeting involving South Africa, Britain, the United States, and Angola could be held on the Cape Verde Islands off Africa's west coast. Robin Gould, Capital News, London.

Spokesman on Potential Threat of Angolan Navy

MB150752 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] A spokesman for the South African Navy has said in Pretoria that because South Africa depends on the sea for most of its trade, it will have to take cognizance of the growth of the Angolan Navy, which could pose a future threat to the country and its trade links. The spokesman was commenting on the newly released French publication *Naval Combat Craft 1984* in which mention is made of the expansion of the navies of African countries. Observing that the Angolan Navy had been strengthened considerably with the acquisition of six Soviet strike craft equipped with surface-to-surface missiles, he said that the South African Navy was keeping a close watch on the situation. Naval planning, he said, took the growth of other navies into account, especially when the growth was taking place in neighboring countries.

USSR-Backed Faction Seen Purging Angolan Moderates

MB141041 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] News of a mass purge of moderates in Angola's ruling MPLA has sobering implications. Such a development would signify the final entrenchment of Soviet control over Angola's fortunes. Not only would it put paid to any prospects of a negotiated end to the civil war and a new program of economic reconstruction in that country, it would also destroy the Western initiative to arrange a democratic independent settlement for South-West Africa by negotiating a withdrawal of Cuban troops — the last major obstacle to such a settlement.

According to reports quoted in the Yugoslav news agency, TANJUG, more than a tenth of the MPLA's membership of 27,000 have been expelled. The purge was announced in Luanda by Secretary General Lucio Lara, and TANJUG comments that it is believed to be part of a drive to stamp out liberalism and indiscipline. A commentator takes the comment to be an allusion to the party moderates who favored negotiations with UNITA.

The report suggests that a complete change of political course has taken place in Angola in the past 12 months. Last November Foreign Minister Pik Botha visited Washington and returned with the view that the chances of a Cuban withdrawal seemed better than 50 percent, depending on how the Soviets would react. A month later he was holding talks with Angolan leaders in Cape Verde. On 8 December President dos Santos was given extraordinary powers by the MPLA leadership, and within the next few weeks, 32 Marxist radicals were ousted from top posts in the party and government. One of them was Lucio Lara's wife, and Lara himself, a leader of the hardline Mulato faction that was opposing any loosening of ties with Moscow and rapprochement with the West, was under pressure.

The so-called moderates — the black majority in the party — had the upper hand. It was at that time that American Government leaders were expressing optimism that a breakthrough in

the South-West Africa initiative might be on the way. Nevertheless, observers were cautioning, as Mr Botha had done, that the outcome would be determined by the Kremlin, whose decision would depend not on Angola's interests, but on a cost and benefit analysis for itself. Specifically, it had to decide whether to risk backing Lara and his hardliners against the majority in the MPLA.

The first open signs of how the decision may have gone emerged in September in the form taken by the response to UNITA's latest offensive. By last month it was reported that more than 30 shiploads of Soviet arms, including tanks, helicopters, and missiles, had been unloaded at Angolan harbors. A Soviet Army general had taken over the command of the MPLA and Cuban forces to prepare a counteroffensive. Obviously, the MPLA government would have had to pay a price for such aid, and this week's report points to what it may have been.

The Soviet-supported hardliners are not only back, it claims, but are back in sufficient strength to destroy irreparably the moderate course. And if the Soviets are running the show now, not only in Angola's internal affairs, but in directing policies with respect to South-West Africa, a much graver challenge would confront those Western governments that are still committed to achieving a democratic and a stable independent settlement for the territory.

Police Confirm Botswana Request for Assistance
MB150750 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] A police spokesman in Pretoria has confirmed that the South African police have been asked by the Botswana authorities to help with the investigation into last month's shooting incident near (Botale). The incident involved a clash between a group of unidentified men and Botswana soldiers on 14 November. It has been established that the two vehicles abandoned by the men when they fled into the bush had been registered in South Africa, where they had given false addresses.

Umtata: Government Negotiating Swazi Removal
MB141444 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] The government is negotiating the removal of Swazi villagers in the eastern Transvaal to the KaNgwane homeland. That has been confirmed by a spokesperson for the Department of Cooperation and Development. The spokesperson says there is no question of removals at this stage, as negotiations are still in progress.

THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND yesterday quoted Swazi chiefs living in KaNgwane as saying hundreds of Swazis in the eastern Transvaal were to lose their homes in a mass removal from productive land to rocky scrubland. The chiefs said the areas being cleared have been declared white. The newspaper said the affected people would resist their removal.

Commentary Urges Regional Economic Cooperation
MB141648 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Station commentary: "Political Differences and Economic Ties inSouthern Africa"]

[Text] In the last day or two there have been strong calls for ignoring political differences in southern Africa and for closer economic ties with South Africa from two of its neighbors. In Mauritius, the prime minister, Mr Aneerood Jugnauth, has said that hard facts have made him realize that despite his political differences with Pretoria it is to the benefit of his people that the economic ties with South Africa are strengthened. Mr Jugnauth, who for many years strongly opposed any cooperation between his country and South Africa, told a South African journalist in Port Louis that through more direct contact between southern African countries and their peoples many of the subcontinent's problems can be solved.

In Harare Senator Garfield Todd, once prime minister of Rhodesia, told the Zimbabwean Parliament that better economic ties between his country and South Africa had become urgently necessary. Mr Todd, who has never been a friend of South Africa and is a confidante of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, said tourism — once among the main sources of income for Zimbabwe — had dried up. He accused the Mugabe government of overemphasizing the political differences between the two countries, to the economic detriment of Zimbabwe.

South African leaders have stated often that political differences need not overshadow economic interdependence. This has always been the overriding fact underlying all economic, technical, and similar dealings with neighboring states. The South African prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, has put the policy in a nutshell: South Africa can cooperate with southern African states in the fields of economics, agriculture, and defense. We can cooperate as equals in an attempt to curb the spread of Marxism, to increase standards of living, and to provide food.

South Africa believes in regional cooperation, therefore, it has declared its willingness to provide — and in many cases has already provided — tenchnological and other aid, and to extend the hand of friendship. Its objective is the creation of political stability and the furthering of economic development in the region, for the benefit of all. There rests a heavy responsibility on all southern African governments in respect of the economic development of their people. The price of neglecting that duty and ignoring the calls of people such as Mr Jugnauth and Mr Todd could be economic ruin and political stability in a region where no one can afford it.

Minister Hails Economic Relations With France
MB141249 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] The minister of finance, Mr Horwood, says economic and financial relations between South Africa and France are excellent in spite of political differences. Speaking on arrival in Paris after signing an agreement in Frankfurt for a 93 million rand

loan, Mr Horwood said that politics was a strange thing. In the end what really counted were sound economic relations. He said that South Africa believed that sound economic banking and trading relations had a major impact on political relations. Mr Horwood says that South Africa had no plans to build a second nuclear power station after the one which France was building at Koeberg near Cape Town.

UDF Statement on Low Election Turnout Reported

MB141100 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 14 Dec 83 p 5

[By political reporter]

[Text] Almost one-third of the wards in the recent elections under the Black Local Authorities Act were uncontested, says the United Democratic Front [UDF].

A large portion — in some places as many as half — of the people of voting age were excluded from the voters rolls.

The UDF made these charges in a statement after comparing the results of the elections with the 1980 census.

In Kagiso the percentage poll was given as 36.6 percent, but only 1,016 people — or 3 percent of the people of voting age — actually voted.

Five townships did not hold elections because nominees were unopposed. These were KwaNobuhle, Lingelihle, Meluzi, Alexandra, and Huhudi.

After scrutinising the election results and comparing them to results from the census, the UDF concluded the new local authorities were no more acceptable to people than the community councils were.

It said it had also shown that the traditional pattern of rejection of councils only in the larger townships had been broken. Many of the smaller townships had also registered low polls.

Reports from UDF affiliates had also shown a large number of the voters were pensioners "who were in an obvious position of vulnerability."

The UDF concluded that the new local authorities would suffer the same fate as the community councils and not gain the support of most people.

SWAZILAND

Ministers Depart for Belgian Aid Talks 13 Dec

MB141013 Mbabane THE SWAZI OBSERVER in English 14 Dec 83 p 3

[By *OBSERVER* reporter]

[Text] The minister without portfolio, Mr Mhambi Mnisi, and the Minister of Finance and Financial Secretary of Tibiyo Taka Ngwane, Dr Sishayi Nxumalo, left Matsapha Airport yesterday for Brussels.

Dr Nxumalo said that in Brussels they will meet the director general for development, Dr Frisch, and the deputy director general, Mr Foley, to discuss possible aid for Swaziland including drug supplies to hospitals in the country.

He added that they would also visit Luxemburg, where they will meet the foreign minister, Madame Colette Flesch, to finalise the ferro-chrome project.

Dr Nxumalo added that they would also meet the Belgium foreign minister to discuss special assistance to the Tibiyo agricultural projects.

The delegation will be joined by Swaziland's ambassador to EEC, Mr Keneth Mbuli, and two officials of Tibiyo Taka Ngwane: the deputy general manager for agricultural projects, Mr Simon Kunene, and the chief accountant Mr Ronald Milford.

TIMES: Total Charged in Coup Attempt 17

MB140935 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 14 Dec 83 pp 1,16

[By Mashumi Twala]

[Excerpt] Six more people have been accused of attempting to stage a coup. They have all been charged with high treason for allegedly plotting to overthrow the government, the High Court heard yesterday.

This brings to 17 the number of people who have been charged with the offence.

The latest person to be charged, Kislom Shongwe, was yesterday released on E1,000 bail.

Last week, 11 people appeared before the Mbabane Magistrate's Court to be committed to the High Court on the same charge.

The group comprised three members of the Royal Family, a chief, a priest and six others.

But yesterday, Director of Public Prosecutions, Mr Absalom Thwala, told Chief Justice Charles Nathan that 16 people had been charged jointly with Shongwe.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Criticizes U.S. Invasion of Grenada

MB150950 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has condemned interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign state by a foreign power. Comrade Mugabe said Zimbabwe will never countenance the invasion of one sovereign state by another on the pretext that that country has failed to run its own affairs. He was

replying to a question in the House of Assembly yesterday in connection with the American-led invasion of Grenada. The prime minister said the people of Grenada, like the people of Zimbabwe, are entitled to the right to remedy their own affairs. Comrade Mugabe said the invasion of Grenada was opposed by a majority at the United Nations, adding that criticism at the recent New Delhi Commonwealth conference was not only of the United States, but of the eight Caribbean states that invaded with it. The invasion of Grenada came after the assassination of the prime minister, Mr Maurice Bishop, and several cabinet ministers.

Government Disappointed With Development Funds
MB141414 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] The permanent secretary in the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning, and Development, Comrade (Tim Mswaka), says the government is satisfied about the inflow of the Zimcord fund, machines, and equipment towards the reconstruction and commodity program. However, he says, the government is disappointed by the flow of funds for development programs. The permanent secretary said of the $165 million committed for the period 1980-84, only $155 million was disbursed. On development projects, he said of $325 million committed for the period 1983-1984, about $46 million was paid out. The meeting, which ends tomorrow, will examine constraints and suggests solutions for the speedy implementation of the Zimcord program. Comrade (Mswaka) also disclosed that several constraints had been identified, including poor communications between the finance and technical ministries.

Radio Truth Reiterates ZIPRA Warning to Tourists
MB141056 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in English to Zimbabwe 0430 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Although it has not appeared in Zimbabwe in any form, a warning issued by ZIPRA elements to all intending tourists has enjoyed an impact elsewhere. The warning letters from ZIPRA were sent to all foreign embassies in Zimbabwe and to various newspapers in South Africa and overseas. It said in part that this was the second warning to tourists not to enter Zimbabwe as they would now be considered targets if they found themselves in the midst of a battle between ZIPRA and the Zimbabwe National Army. The ZIPRA high command has washed its hands of any responsiblity for the possible death of tourists who wander where they should not.

Articles reporting the ZIPRA letter have appeared in various European, British, and American newspapers, and an influential newspaper in South Africa has also carried the warning on its front page. Apparently, the order has gone out to the thousands of ZIPRA soldiers in the field not to hesitate to shoot if a tourist car or bus stumbles into a battle zone. As Radio Truth has said before, Zimbabwe is now entering a civil war phase, and the fighting will be protracted and bloody. It is not an exaggeration to say that Zimbabwe could follow the same path as Lebanon unless ZANU-PF is quickly removed from the scene.